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BACK TO ERIN ONCE MORE.

WHAT is being done about the PARNELL National Defence Fund? We have a special reason for asking this question. Yesterday a native of India sent us anonymously a cheque for five guineas to be devoted to the defence of Mr. PARNELL, and we naturally asked ourselves where the money had to be sent. The Liverpool Liberals some time ago formed a committee for the purpose of raising funds, and they talked of moving for the establishment of a National Defence Fund, which would naturally be the proper thing to do. But at present no such national organization is visible. Is it not time that something was done to bring it out from the region of ideals into the realm of accomplished facts?

The *Freeman's Journal*, which is ever to the fore in such work as this, has started what it calls "The National Indemnity Fund," and it has already received upwards of £1,000. Other newspapers are proclaiming that they also will receive subscriptions, and therein they do well. But this miscellaneous, heterogeneous, and unorganized array of volunteer collectors is not exactly what is wanted. Could not there be a Central Defence Committee formed which would undertake the collection of the necessary funds all over the country? In this matter systematic action is of immense importance. These sporadic appeals for assistance are very well in their way, but what is wanted is a more general public national organization. We see this morning that the president of the Irish National League has issued a trenchant appeal to Irishmen in America to form a PARNELL Defence Fund in every State in the Union. Mr. FITZGERALD says: "Mr. PARNELL must not be left to fight alone. The united Irish race "must not permit their leader to fail in his efforts to secure a fair "hearing of his cause for lack of funds to carry on what must be "an expensive suit." The united Irish race no doubt will do well to do what they can to support their leader, but it ought not to be left to them alone. Mr. PARNELL is fighting the cause of English Liberalism as well as of Irish Nationalism. The Defence Fund should be headed by Mr. GLADSTONE and supported by all his colleagues in the late Cabinet. They proposed what was practically the establishment of Mr. PARNELL as Prime Minister of Ireland. They have the strongest possible motive for securing him in this crisis against any disadvantage due to lack of funds or the pressure of financial responsibility. Apart altogether from these considerations, it would be a proper and graceful thing for the chiefs of our party to indicate at this moment their confidence in their colleague and their determination to see to it that he shall not be prejudiced for want of funds.

Meanwhile a signal disaster has overtaken the Government in Ireland. That disaster, the reality of which no one would probably admit more readily than Mr. BALFOUR himself, is the reappearance on the scene of the MARQUIS OF CLANRICARDE. There is probably no human being whom the Unionists would like better to hang than this landlord. He is the most familiar type of the worst kind of absentee. The Coercionist shudders when he hears of Clanricarde. The Marquis yesterday began evictions on an imposing scale on his Galway estate; and now that he has begun, there is no reason why he should end until this time next year. Dublin Castle has always shrunk from helping him to evict his tenants. Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH put the screw upon him in order to induce him to grantreasonable reductions. Mr. BALFOUR, on the other hand, is helping him to make unjust evictions. There are hundreds of evictions pending—yesterday the troops captured eight horses. There will be wild work before the estate is cleared. It will take Father COEN all his time to prevent bloodshed. The soldiers sympathize with the people, and those who have been in Woodford, and know well how fierce is the feeling of the peasant folk against the emergency men and bailiffs, will marvel much if the evictions end without affording the Galway coroner material for one of those prolonged inquiries before the only popular court which we have left in Ireland, with which we have lately been so familiar.

Ignorance of the facts of the case is the real obstacle in the way of the universal adoption of Home Rule. From this point of view Archbishop WALSH does excellent service by his exposure in the new number of the *Contemporary Review* of "Mr. GEORGE WYNDHAM'S Treatment of Irish Statistics." The special "treatment" referred to was in an article in the May number of the same review. This is not of itself of any importance. But Mr. GEORGE WYNDHAM is said to be Mr. BALFOUR'S private secretary, and if he is, then he is "treating Irish statistics" every day of his life—and what is more, treating his fellow-subjects to pains and penalties on the strength of the statistics. It becomes therefore of the utmost interest and importance to test, when one has the chance, the spirit and the intelligence with which Mr. WYNDHAM prepares the figures for his official chief. Archbishop WALSH'S article abounds in amazing revelations of Mr. WYNDHAM'S method, of which let the following instance suffice. Mr. WYNDHAM'S point is that in many instances the rents fixed under the Land Act of 1881 have been higher than the former rents. In support of this general proposition he adduces the following instance: "In Fermanagh, in eleven instances, there has been an increase of 168.3 per cent." Now, with regard to this statement, Archbishop WALSH shows that Mr. WYNDHAM makes the following blunders:—

(1) He fixes on 11 cases only; and ignores the remaining 1,452!

(2) He represents these eleven cases as judicial rents fixed by the Land Commissioners, whereas in fact they were cases fixed "upon the reports of valuers appointed upon the application of landlords and tenants" (a totally different procedure).

(3) He arrives at his increase of 168.3 per cent. by comparing the "total of former rents" with that of judicial rents; but ignores the fact that in the former total, only 3 of the 8 rents are included, the remaining 8 old rents being "unascertained."

Is not this last blunder positively excruciating? Yet it is said to be the man who committed it who coaches the man who governs Ireland! If this be so, need one wonder that his process of government is not a success?

THE LOG OF THE "LABRADOR."—II.

WITH CAPTAIN WIGGINS EN ROUTE FOR THE LAND OF GOLD.

Wednesday, 1st August.

AT 9 A.M. we were off the North Cape, which is much sooner than we expected. But our little engines have been driving us bravely against a fresh head-breeze and a lumpy head-sea at about five knots an hour. We have again got a glorious day—warm sun and cloudless sky. The North Cape is a dreary-looking, perfectly bare promontory, and is the extremity of a little island. As you know, this is the most northerly point of Europe. I must say a more forlorn and dreary-looking coast (but fine in its dreariness) I have never seen, and in bad weather it must look dreadful. If there is not more vegetation where we are going, our brave botanist's profession will be a sinecure. He has been busily trying to catch tags of seaweed, but finding nothing abnormal in them retrenches himself in busily taking temperatures. Both L—— and S—— photographed the midnight sun. We trust to get into Vardoe some time to-morrow, so, notwithstanding the continuous head-winds, we will have accomplished the voyage in a fortnight instead of the predicted twenty days.

3 P.M. After rounding the North Cape we encountered a strong head-wind, and the sea got very choppy all at once. The poor old ship battled bravely against it all, but hardly forged ahead at all. At last the captain decided to run into Kjöllenfjord, for which we were directly heading. He was encouraged in this resolve by us all, who were longing to stretch our legs, and saw the prospect of kicking about for days in a heavy mist which we saw lying before us. The captain knows this fjord, and hoped to save a day by coaling here, but in this he was disappointed, as the place instead of increasing has dwindled into insignificance, and no coal is kept. The entrance to the fjord is very fine indeed: the cliffs come down precipitously to the deep, dark blue water, and form a beautiful little harbour about three and a half miles inland. Just at the entrance stand two cliffs, which look exactly like the ruins of a church, which resemblance they bear out by their name, the Felskirken. Formerly they used to be worshipped by the native Laps, for we are now in Norwegian Lapland. As we came in we were boarded by *the* old man of the place, evidently a gentleman of some importance, who combines the functions of pilot, postmaster, mayor, churchwarden, and purveyor of peculiarly lean sheep.

This worthy also seemed to be the father, uncle, and cousin of the entire population of the place, which consists of about three families, and he is also the happy possessor of a peculiarly hideous dog rejoicing in the

name of "Bismarck." This dog he offered to sell me, at a subsequent period, for the modest sum of £5, or ninety kroners. I wondered much at this advanced sign of civilization, but soon discovered its cause; the mail steamer, which often carries the British tourist to and from the North Cape, calls twice a week at this little place. I took advantage of this fact to post you a letter, but postponed sending this monster epistle till I could chronicle our safe arrival at Vardohuus (the local name for Vardoe) to continue our adventures at Kjölle. After landing I soon discovered a boon companion in the shape of a Tromsoe schoolboy, who had a vague smattering of German, and who, we found, was spending his summer holidays with his brother-in-law, who was, as far as I could make out, the parson of the funny little wooden church on the shore. Mr. Zulius (?) affected a grand disdain for so uncivilized a place as Kjölle, but nevertheless did us the honours with a haughty sort of disdain. This consisted of taking us out to fish in the fjord, where we soon caught a bucketful of haddock, codling, and one or two flounders and red mullet. These with the sheep we bought and very good milk and fresh eggs were a fine change after the eternal "salt horse" and potato stems we had been living on for the last week. How the two cows of the place exist is a standing marvel to me. We saw absolutely no vegetation except a little patch of heather and weeds close to the shore. The high hills behind the few wooden huts are covered with sharp flint stones and large patches of snow. S——, however, maintains that in some hollows there is vegetation and adduces in confirmation of this 150 different kinds of weeds which he seems to prize like the apple of his eye, but he utterly fails to convince us that they are flowers, as he calls them. The inhabitants own that they cannot grow any form of vegetable for love or money. On the top of one of the hills I was shown a lake in which they said "Lax" (salmon) were to be caught, but as there was absolutely no in-or-outlet to it, and it was evidently formed only by the melting snow, I failed to see how this was possible. As it was, I was not able to get a cast, as there was no boat, and the marsh around the lake made it impossible to throw a fly from the bank. But by far the most tantalizing thing in the way of sport were the broods of eider duck flappers into which we rowed several times, and of which I might have bagged several brace. Unfortunately these birds are strictly preserved all the year round for the sake of the eider down, and as I did not wish to see the old man in the function of chief of the local police I reluctantly unloaded my gun, which I only used in the slaughter of a black diver in the fjord and a golden plover on the hill. I slaughtered these to try my hand at taxidermy, in which in time I hope to become sufficiently experienced. The way the Norwegians procure the down from these wretched ducks is brutal, as they work upon their maternal instincts to the most unwarrantable extent. Before these foolish birds make their nest they pluck out their down, exactly as the pelican in the wilderness is generally supposed to do. The moment they have done this it is appropriated by the wily natives, and the operation has to be gone through again before an egg can be laid. This game goes on till the duck's patience is exhausted, or the baldness of its person excludes further self-sacrifice, and it is then left to shift for itself as best it can, and I presume puts up with seaweed as a bed.

Thursday, 2nd August.

This morning a little whaler came in for shelter, and reported a heavy mist outside, but the sea smoother. Wiggins thinks he will venture on the eighty miles which separate us from Vardoe. We spent the morning in rambling about the hills and fishing, and after taking a tender farewell from the Horst family, whom the Captain presented with a rose and a camelia plant, we go on board. After dinner the anchor was hoisted, but just as it was up something gave way, and down again it went with a tremendous rush. At exactly the same time the engineer reports something wrong with the engine, so we are detained for another two hours or so. We accordingly went ashore again, and tried to scale the hill immediately above our heads, a very difficult task, owing to the loose flint stones. We had not got half way up when we were called aboard by three shrill calls from our whistle, which, by the way, has lost something of its appalling hoarseness. Perhaps the brisk Northern air has had a beneficial effect upon its lungs. The mishap to the engine was only a trifling screw loose in the condenser: our anchor came up like "a baibie," as the chief mate expressed it, and off we steamed at 5.30, dipping our ensign to the assembled population.

Friday, 3/8/'88.

Everything is wrapped in oblivion since we left Kjölle last night till 9.30 P.M. this morning, as we had to make up two doses of sleep. It appears, however, from the log-book that the mist lifted at midnight, and we have been grinding away steadily along the shore from cape to cape. At 9.30 we were close in shore, and passing from one light fog cloud into the other. The sea was quite calm, and one might almost call it warm in the sun. We passed several native fishing boats from which the men held up gigantic codfish for us to buy, but we passed on without heeding them. We were quite touched to observe one of the men slapping his arms to warm himself in a way which we always thought peculiar to the London cabman only. At 2.30 Vardohuus hove in sight, and right pleased we were. This little town, built entirely of wooden houses with roofs covered with growing grass and moss, is built on a little island, and affords a very safe little harbour, with a good cement breakwater. In this harbour, into which we were piloted by the burly, English-speaking harbour master, we found many Russian sailing ships and one large Archangel steamship. As soon as we got moored we went ashore, being almost overpowered on the way by the portentous smells, which are a peculiar characteristic of this "tight little island." They are easily explained when one realizes its three industries, namely:—No. 1. Drying the stockfish for manure, which seems to be done promiscuously all over the town, as one sees strings of them hanging out of the windows, from the roofs, &c.; No. 2. Making cod-liver oil, which is done by throwing the livers into open vats till they become unapproachable to the uninitiated; and No. 3. Converting the bottle-nosed whale into patent guano, which is perhaps the most unsavoury process of all. Through this atmosphere, which I should think would exclude all possibility of one's ever acquiring consumption, we wandered to the post office, where we were disappointed to find neither letters nor telegrams, and from which I sent you the news of our safe arrival. The captain forthwith settled to await the next mail, which is due on Tuesday, as he cannot proceed on his journey without the manifest of the cargo, which was not made out when we left Newcastle. We have plenty to do till then in shipping our coals and altering the cargo, which was awkwardly stored at Newcastle, and has been giving a good deal of trouble. We are also taking ten tons of salt fish on board as cargo for Yenisei. After the Post Office we visited our Vice-Consul, Mr. Holmbae, with whom we "tea'd." He lives the six winter months at Tromsae, and the rest of the year he looks after his fishing business here. He is married and has a daughter, who is, I believe, a pianist of some reputation. Here we discovered that there were two Danish actors who were going to give a representation in the local town hall, an event unprecedented in Vardohuus annals. So, under the Consul's chaperonage, S—— and I went, and very amusing it was, though their Norwegian jokes were lost upon us, but the good people's joy and amusement was a treat to see. So ended our first day at Vardohuus.

Saturday, 4/8/'88.

This morning the indefatigable S—— brought a party of five Laps on board—three men and two women. While he was photographing them I made a sketch of one of them, and this sketch I have roughly reproduced. These people delight in gay colours. Their summer coat is made of blue or red cloth ornamented with yellow braid. Their legs are swathed in a strange combination of gaiters and knickerbockers of tanned reindeer leather, and their sandals or boots are made of the same with the hair left on. But by far the most extraordinary part of their clothing is their headgear. It is like a gigantic flabby lancer's shako, square on the top, with a huge band of bright-coloured cloth. Our friends were a superior class, as they spoke Russian and Norwegian, and rather snubbed us by refusing with supercilious smiles the fishhooks and calico we offered them. But knives they melted at, and a Russian rouble note sent them into fits of ecstasy. Vardohuus is full of Russians who come from Archangel in the small trading schooners.

Sunday.

P.S.—I must now conclude the account of the first portion of our voyage. I will continue it in the same form day by day, but when I will get a chance of posting it "ἐστι ἐν γουναστ θεῶν." We hear vague rumours of much ice and a late season; but we are undaunted, and Wiggins smiles at all these discouraging prophecies.

CONCERNING THE "COSMO" CATASTROPHE.

A CHAT WITH MR. HENRY COXWELL.

As we stated last night, the accident which has terminated Mr. Simmons's career will give a new zest to ballooning, already enjoying just now a large measure of popular patronage and favour. Bearing this in mind, a representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* waited on the well-known aeronaut, Mr. Coxwell, with a view to "elicit" his opinion of the causes of the catastrophe and also in the hope that a little "dry light" on the whole subject may help to moderate the unreasoning and unreasonable enthusiasm of those neck-or-nothing persons who are just now so much in evidence. We append our representative's report:—

Betaking myself to Tottenham—where, within a short distance of the Alexandra Palace, Mr. Coxwell's modest villa is situated—I soon found myself in the presence of the veteran aeronaut. He was born in 1819, and has practically retired from his arduous profession, although he bears himself bravely; indeed, his presence is enough to make one yearn for an aerial trip under his experienced guidance. Seated in a cosy parlour, the rain driving against the windows, I enjoyed a cheery chat of about an hour in length. Mr. Coxwell was most courteous in affording me every information within his

power. "Well, Mr. Coxwell," I began, "will you let me have your views of the sad accident to Mr. Simmons?"

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CAR.

"In my opinion," said the hero of over a thousand ascents, "the construction of the car was the cause of the accident. Of course, I have only the information in the morning papers to go upon, and I do not see how the car could have become detached, as some of the accounts state. But it was a grave mistake to adopt the new-fangled car, made of iron wire, through which poor Simmons met his death. The car should have been made of basket-work, and would then have been elastic, so as to rebound without injury to the occupants, if in collision with any small obstacle. The car I have repeatedly used is so made, and can be squeezed together; but, owing to its material being elastic, it recovers its shape directly the pressure is removed. I am strongly of opinion that had the Olympia balloon been provided with a car of this kind no serious result need have been apprehended, in spite of the gusty weather at the time of the accident. I see that the balloon is described as the largest in the world, whilst it is really one of the smallest, holding only a few thousand feet of gas. The preparations for so long a journey as that to Vienna seem to me to have been very inadequate."

A CLOSE SHAVE—BUT NO FATALITIES.

"I remember," continued Mr. Coxwell, "a similar incident in connection with an ascent I made from Bolton, I think in 1864. There were seven or eight persons in the car, and after some time aloft we approached some trees just as in the Maldon case. 'Duck your heads, boys!' I shouted. One of my passengers was very 'courageous,' and remained immoveable. There was no time to speak. I seized him by the back of the neck, thrust him down in the car; there was a concussion, and we had safely passed through the trees. If I hadn't been prompt the man would have been killed. Owing to the car being made as I have described, we sustained no injury. Any yielding, elastic substance, in rapid motion, will pass safely through tree-tops, on the principle that a candle shot from a gun will pass through a board uninjured."

A SIMILAR EXPERIENCE—AND AN INQUEST.

"Then, again, there was a similar occurrence, followed by the death of the traveller, whose name was Wadman, about thirty years ago. In 1854, too, Le Tour made an ascent from Cremorne, and—in consequence of a faulty car—met with injuries through coming into contact with the branches of a tree, not very far from this house, which resulted in his death a few days later. He was shamefully cast off by his friends, and I am happy to say I made his dying moments a little easier than they otherwise would have been. He broke his ribs, and was otherwise injured. After his death, I obtained permission to take a cast of his features, and," said Mr. Coxwell, carefully unwrapping a small parcel, "here is the cast, which has, as you see, several hairs from the unfortunate man's eyebrows still adhering." I looked, and it was so. The face was that of a young man, very handsome, and with the characteristics of his nationality, French.

SCIENCE VERSUS SENSATION.

Gently folding up and replacing the melancholy package, Mr. Coxwell then drifted into more general information about ballooning in many of its aspects. "Many people," said he, "seem to think that nothing is safer than a balloon. There could not be a greater mistake. Nothing requires more unceasing, never-sleeping vigilance for its safe pursuit than ballooning. My own experience extends over forty years, and the one great lesson that has been impressed upon me is that unending caution is the one thing needful for an aeronaut. Mere brute courage is nowhere, is no use at all. You always want to be prepared for the unexpected, or the most carefully thought-out plans will go astray and end in a tragedy. There has been far too much sensational ballooning of late, which proves and can prove nothing, and there has been an absence of the scientific spirit of inquiry so much to be desired." Mr. Coxwell himself, as already stated, has entered into well-earned retirement, "but," he added, with a glow of the old enthusiasm, "I would still ascend with pleasure for any definite scientific purpose." He also condemned very unreservedly sundry attempts at "bogus ballooning," all arising, as he pointed out, from the undue fondness for sensation now so prevalent.

METEOROLOGICAL AND MILITARY BALLOONING.

To these branches of his art Mr. Coxwell has given special attention, and as long ago as 1854 had perfected a system of signalling which may still have a chance of proving its great utility. "From these two branches I have large expectations," he went on, "if experiments are properly conducted. From my factory at Seaford," producing an elaborate illustration of the works, "I could supply the military authorities with any number of large and serviceable aërostats. My trials at Woolwich and Aldershot give me special knowledge of this subject."

A BOOK ABOUT BALLOONING.

"But you will find more of this matter in my book, recently brought out, and called 'My Life and Balloon Experiences.'" I was honoured with a copy of this intensely interesting little volume, which is as exciting as Jules Verne's "Five Weeks in a Balloon," and has the advantage of dealing only with literal truth. It is curious to note, by the way, mention by the author of Baldwin's first appearance in America with his parachute, and a reference to the length and risky surroundings of Mr. Joseph Simmons's journeys. Mr. Coxwell showed me some of his very numerous scrap-books, containing newspaper cuttings relating to ballooning, and having special reference, of course, to his own career. I wished him the thorough success his book undoubtedly deserves, and he took the opportunity of saying that a second volume would soon be issued, "although," he added, regretfully, "I shall have to shorten it as much as I can, the incidents of my life have been so full of variety and interest." Seeing that the aërial voyager, still looking quite "fit" for a long trip, on one occasion made four ascents within a week, there is every reason to believe his statement.

NEW BOOKS.

"A RECOILING VENGEANCE."

"A Recoiling Vengeance." By F. Barrett. Two vols. (Ward and Downey.) If the title of a novel counts for anything at all, the present story ought to be a shilling shocker of the purest water. The opening chapter, in which a wily old lawyer, the writer of the story, and a capital fellow, in spite of his assertions to the contrary, introduces himself and some of his clients, confirms the impression that something very sensational is to follow. But when all is said and done, the reader finds that instead of following the horrible track of some dark crime he has spent an hour in the most pleasant and amusing society, where nothing is very deep or dark, but everything bright and lively, and where homely things and people are made interesting by a cheerful and humorous story-teller. The only crime in the book is the attempt of a young would-be heir to prevent his dead uncle's untimely resurrection by putting some arsenic into the old gentleman's mouth. A charge was, of course, brought against the medical man of having administered poison to his patient; but, as the heir-apparent was clumsy as well as cowardly, no serious mischief resulted, and in the end all the good people were rewarded, while the wicked ceased from troubling, having for ever vanished from their usual haunts.

"SAMUEL AND SAUL."

"Samuel and Saul." By the Rev. William J. Deane. (Nisbet and Co.) This volume of "Men of the Bible" is somewhat more conservative in tone than certain of its predecessors. Mr. Deane accepts the miraculous as it stands in the narrative, which is, perhaps better than attempting a half-and-half course. Minimize this element as much as one will, something must remain that cannot be accounted for, and the doubtful gain is more than counterbalanced by the impression of special pleading that is left upon the reader. Mr. Deane is even more courageous in dealing with moral questions. The command to exterminate the Amalekites does not trouble him. "If modern humanity revolts from such wholesale slaughter and devastation, the people of that age regarded it in quite a different light." So far we agree. But when he adds, "and needed this formidable lesson," and "the Amalekites deserved demolition," and generally intimates that this command, "Slay man and woman, infant and suckling," came as directly from a Divine Teacher as did "Blessed are the merciful," we demur. For the rest the book is carefully put together. Authorities on Biblical geography and archæology have been duly consulted. But it might have been with advantage less diffuse and less homiletic.

MR. W. L. NEWMAN'S "POLITICS."

"The 'Politics' of Aristotle." With an Introduction, two Prefatory Essays, and Notes Critical and Explanatory. By W. L. Newman, M.A., Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford. Vols. I. and II. (Oxford: at the Clarendon Press.) This edition of the "Politics" of Aristotle is planned upon a scale unfamiliar to English scholarship. The two large volumes now issued contain only the first two books of the Greek text. Out of their one thousand pages nine hundred and fifty are taken up with the Introduction, with notes, and with elaborate essays on points of special interest. This bulkiness is due, however, not to careless writing or to pedantry, but to the pains which he has taken to elucidate Aristotle's thought. Concerning his Introduction he modestly expresses the hope that it may sometimes serve to smooth the path of readers of "Politics." We may assert it that no reader could desire an abler or more exhaustive exposition. Some little fault-finding with this Introduction we have to do before we pass on to grateful acknowledgment of its merits. We could wish that it had been broken up into manageable divisions. It runs the length of a volume without the useful formality of parts or chapters. Then, we do not altogether like the order of its contents. In the Introduction the history of political speculation in Greece is given only after an elaborate statement of Aristotle's aim, method, and ideal. This aim, this method, this ideal have so much that is unfamiliar, that it might have been better to introduce them by that survey of earlier philosophy which Mr. Newman postpones so long. Then, too, the analysis of the last three books of the "Politics" might have followed close on the analysis of the first five books, instead of being severed from it by a long historical digression. Generally speaking, the analysis might have been rendered more easily comprehensible by taking more licence of re-arrangement. Lastly, we think that Mr. Newman might have made a more liberal use of historical illustrations, especially of illustrations drawn from the history of small States. The modern man can ill understand the peculiarities of small yet highly civilized communities. His great-grandfather might have studied them in life; for only one hundred years ago they were exceedingly numerous. Many of those little States preserved, even down to the French Revolution, a structure more or less resembling that of the classical commonwealths. But now almost all have disappeared, and the one or two which remain have only a nominal independence. Accordingly, illustrations judiciously chosen from the history of Italy, Germany, and Switzerland are most helpful to any body who would understand the world in which and for which Aristotle wrote the "Politics." Yet on this topic of illustration, as on that other topic of arrangement, we speak with bated breath. For Mr. Newman's tendency to stick close to his text is a saving tendency in a commentator. With the fulness of Mr. Newman's knowledge the most careless reader must be impressed. The task of editing any of the more important writings of Aristotle puts the severest strain on a scholar's command of Hellenic antiquity. Aristotle collects the results of such a mighty movement of thought, he ranges over so vast a field of knowledge, he is so heavily charged with meaning yet so hasty in his utterance, he is so versatile, so suggestive, and often so obscure, that something of his own encyclopædic quality is requisite to any one who would comprehend his meaning. Mr. Newman's Introduction could have been written only by a man who had Greek literature and philosophy at his fingers'-ends. It would be a poor compliment to say that few deserve this praise; let us say that few understand how much it implies.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

There are two interesting things in Mr. Gladstone's review of "The Life of Forster"—one a matter of ancient history, the other of modern controversy. The former concerns Mr. Forster's resignation, of which Mr. Wemyss Reid writes as follows:—

It s not surprisi g that the Cabinet was divided, and that it wavered in its opinion. Mr. Forster, however, stood firm. . . . Mr. Chamberlain's negotiat ions with Captain O'Shea were being continued, and Forster saw clearly that unless the current changed he must be beaten.

This statement, says Mr. Gladstone, is "mythical in the strictest sense." It accurately embodies Mr. Forster's version of the matter, but that version is absolutely denied by Mr. Gladstone, who explains the divergence of opinion as follows:—

[The statements] import into the transactions of an earlier period the ideas of a later one. When Forster had resigned, he naturally supposed there was some cause outside himself for his resignation. Hence the supposition of a divided and a wavering Cabinet, for which there is not a shadow of foundation.

If this be indeed so, it is a very interesting example of the genesis of a myth. How many statements—in all departments of human thought and knowledge—have thus grown out of "importing into the transactions of an earlier period the ideas of a later one"!

The controversial point of interest in Mr. Gladstone's article is his reminder that the whole basis of Mr. Parnell's release in 1882 was the conviction that Mr. Parnell was not himself associated with crime. Upon which fact Mr. Gladstone remarks:—

There was, therefore, a unanimous judgment of the Cabinet of 1882 that these gentlemen were not associated with crime; although not less than six members of that Cabinet have in 1888 been either actively or tacitly supporters of a parliamentary inquiry instituted, *inter alia*, in order to ascertain whether they were so associated, or whether they were not.

The point is a good one, and Mr. Gladstone understates it if anything. For the only fresh evidence added by the *Times* to what was already within cognizance of the Cabinet in 1882 is the "forged letters." Yet the six members of the 1882 Cabinet have connived at the relegation of those letters to a "secondary" position, and at the institution of a fishing inquiry into facts which were before them six years ago.

A correspondent in the *Morning Post* suggests that we may utilize our old cannon by using them to throw shells charged with melinite. The idea is worth consideration. An old gun which cannot generate sufficient velocity to drive a shot through the harness of an ironclad might drop a shell on her deck charged with an explosive strong enough to blow the sl i p to pieces. The science of naval attack and defence will have to be reconsidered in the light of the new explosives.

General Boulanger will at any rate have left his mark on political speculation in France. The "Departmental Councils," says the *Times* correspondent, "have now pronounced in favour of returning to *scrutin d'arrondissement*, or single-member constituencies, the system abandoned here at the very time when it was extensively applied in England." This *volte face* is due to a desire to dish Boulanger. The wisdom of the move is doubted as yet by the Radicals; but the Opportunists who invented *scrutin de liste* as a panacea are now unanimous in denouncing it as the cause of all their ills. *Scrutin de liste* was all very good when it made for Gambetta; but is all very bad now that it makes for Boulanger. It is an old story. What we grandiloquently call "political principles" are seldom more than party expediencies.

M. Laguerre's two dogs have been taught to howl whenever M. Ferry's name is mentioned in their hearing, and to greet the name of Boulanger with signs of joy. If Carlyle had had time and taste for the training of dogs this is the sort of cynical fable-in-action (cynical in the literal sense of the word) which he might have been expected to invent. How many bipeds in the length and breadth of France can boast better-grounded political convictions than those of M. Laguerre's Mars and Marsa? And the parable applies not only to France but to England; and not only to England in general, but to Fleet-street and its purlieus in particular.

We commend the proceedings before Mr. Bridge yesterday to the attention of the committee of the Constitutional Club. The evidence given by Mrs. Gant, a slight and delicate lady, raises curious questions as to the manners and morals that are tolerated in that palatial abode of the "gentlemen" who uphold "law and order." Major Gant, the father of a recalcitrant husband who is defying the order of the court, was served with an official notice by his daughter-in-law at the Constitutional Club. This gallant Constitutionalist no sooner received the notice than, according to her sworn testimony, he lunged at the mother of his grandchildren with his umbrella, striking her twice on the side so violently as to cause her to fall on the steps of the club. Major Gant's defence was that he "believed he was being followed into the club by a couple of prostitutes." The assertion throws a very disagreeable light upon the interior of the club. If it is not a common occurrence for such characters to follow members into the club, how could Major Gant make so extraordinary a mistake as to the identity of his own daughter-in-law? Mr. Bridge has adjourned the case for a fortnight. Before it comes on again the committee of the club had better make up their minds as to the course they should take to clear the character of the Constitutional and its members from the suggestions implied by the statement of Major Gant.

We publish elsewhere some extracts from a notable article in the new *Westminster* in defence of the indissoluble marriage. Miss Chapman, the writer of the article in question, while strongly condemning any greater laxity in the direction of free marriage, sees clearly enough that marriage as it exists at present on the basis of the permanent subjection of the woman to the man is morally as indefensible as slavery, and if lifelong marriage is to continue the conditions of the marriage contract will have to be brought into harmony with the new ideas as to the right of woman to justice as if she were a man. That will never be recognized in marriage until it is recognized in the State. Miss Chapman's plea for Marriage Reform is not open to the fundamental objection taken by many to the discussion raised by Mrs. Caird. Marriage may be a divine institution, but the reform of the conditions, legal, social, and religious, of the contract cannot be regarded as an unarguable proposition.

The long list of medals conferred by the Royal Humane Society upon those who have saved life from drowning last month, suggests among other thoughts the need there is for the recognition of other deeds of bravery besides those connected with the saving of drowning men. The street and the railway have perils as great as the river and the sea; nor is it only in averting death that heroism is displayed. There are other perils not less serious, which often involve risks on the part of those who seek to avert them as great as any accidents by water. But at present they are unrecognized. Here surely there is a gap in our social organization which might profitably be filled.

What are the "finest town views in England?" A writer in the *British Weekly* selects as the best three—the views of Durham from the station, of Torquay from the station, and of Richmond as you approach it from Twickenham. To the first of these three, few people would, we suppose, make demur; but the other two are decidedly open to question. It is surely strange to exclude from any list of the best town views in England, the view of Oxford from Headington Hill or Bagley Wood. And a good many people would put in a claim, we fancy, for the view of Westminster from the Park, or of London—Ouida notwithstanding—from Westminster Bridge. They would at any rate have Wordsworth on their side:—

> Earth has not anything to show more fair:
> Dull would he be of soul who could pass by
> A sight so touching in its majesty.

The "Visitor's Impressions of India," published in the *Times* to day, are interesting enough for what they record, and still more so for what they leave unobserved. They show how easily the best-meaning traveller may pass through a country without obtaining any insight into the real problems of the time. The *Times* "Visitor" writes in an intelligent way on the manners and morals and antiquities of the land through which he passed; and shows his political interests by the questions which he propounds at the end of his article. Yet there is no hint in these questions of what Sir W. W. Hunter points out in the new *Contemporary* as "*the* present problem in India"—the problem, namely, of fulfilling our Imperial pledges and admitting the natives of India to duties which they are now unquestionably "qualified by their education, ability, and integrity duly to discharge."

It will be interesting to know whether after the disastrous fate of Mr. Simmons and the "Olympian" balloon M. Jovis, the celebrated aeronaut, is still persevering in his preparations for crossing the Atlantic from America to Europe, and whether he is still continuing the construction of his monster balloon at Paris, where a vast piece of ground has

been lent to him for the purpose M. Durand Gréville, writing in the current number of the *Revue Scientifique*, is of opinion that practically the project is so hazardous that nobody would like to advise its realization. Since, however, it does exist, he points out the conditions under which the undertaking has at least some chances of success. The balloon journey from America to Europe he considers as almost doomed to failure, on account of the cyclones constantly sweeping from the American shores towards the East; but, thinks M. Durand Gréville, if a balloon were to ascend in Portugal with an east wind, and at a season when the cyclones which make the equatorial regions so dangerous during the three summer months are not to be feared, it has a good chance of landing safely on the North American shore, its speed having been that of an ordinary train. But in the consideration of this plan, which is theoretically practical enough, there are so many "ifs" to be taken into account that the writer cannot advocate even this comparatively safe ascent, and advises that experimental ascents in pilot balloons should be tried, for by such, he concludes, "meteorology would profit, and the lives of some courageous aeronauts would be preserved."

RIVER RIGHTS IN SURREY.

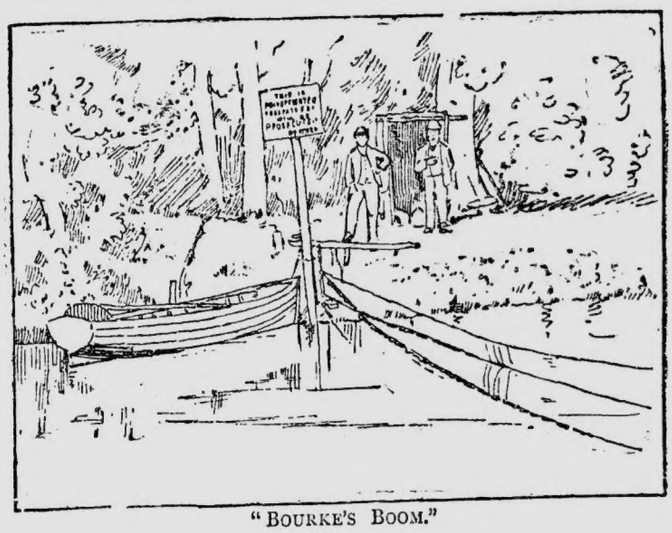
THE BLOCKADE OF BURWOOD.

WITHIN twenty miles of the metropolis and in one of the most picturesque parts of Surrey there is just now being waged a right of way dispute which, although it has as yet excited only local interest, is nevertheless of no little public importance. Every visitor to Hampton Court by the South Western Railway has, on leaving the station, to cross a sluggish stream which pours its clay-stained waters into the Thames at a point opposite to the Trophy Gates of Wolsey's Palace. This stream is the river Mole—"the sullen Mole (Pope calls it) that hides his diving flood"—which here, by its confluence with the Ember and Thames, forms the island (Mole's Eye) from which the Moleseys, East and West, are supposed to take their names. Insignificant as the Mole may appear to be at its estuary, in comparison with the proud stream by which it is absorbed, it is a river of very respectable proportions, as rivers go in this country. It completely traverses the county of Surrey, watering the pleasant places of Box Hill, Leatherhead, Cobham, and Esher, now rushing in a tortuous stream between banks of fern and willow, and through arches of pleasant foliage; now burrowing underground like its four-footed namesake, and now spreading itself out on the surface into a lapping lakelet, that provides a village bathing-place and adds a jewel to the rural landscape. There are still living some who can remember the time when this pretty little river was navigable for pleasure-boats from Box Hill, near Dorking, to its estuary at East Molesey—a distance of more than twenty miles. That it is not so now is owing solely to the selfishness of one or two riparian owners, who, on the theory that might is right, have preserved its waters as a private pleasaunce to the exclusion of the public.

MILL AT EAST MOLESEY.

The first water-grabber was a Molesey landowner who a short time ago, acting presumably with the authority of the lord of the manor, stretched a chain across the river and erected a notice board forbidding the passage of boats. It is understood that the only excuse for this outrage is a lease, long since expired, granted by Charles II. to an ancestor of Lord Hotham, the present lord of the manor of Molesey. More will be said later on of the law as it affects public privileges on the Mole, but it may be mentioned here that Sir John Whittaker Ellis, the Conservative member for the Kingston division and no mean authority on local lore, stated at a recent inquiry that Lord Hotham has not even fishing rights. Rights or no rights, the chain was put across, and those who wished to boat upon the Mole, or to bathe or fish in its waters, had to go up stream to Esher or Hersham. The Molesey people grumbled a little, but they are a sleepy folk, and did not care to engage in what might prove a costly fight. Within the last few weeks public rights on the river Mole have again been tampered with, but there is a prospect that the last offender will not be suffered to have his own way as easily as his predecessor.

Encouraged, perhaps, by the success of the East Molesey experiment, the Hon. H. Bourke, who has recently acquired the estate of Burwood, near Cobham, has constructed a boom at each end of his property. A row of stakes has been firmly driven into the river bed, stout chains have been strung from post to post, and a barbed wire has been stretched over all, to give a fitting finish to the edifice and to lacerate the hands of any vulgar person who cannot take a hint. The boom is attended day and night by watchers, for whose protection a hut has been



"BOURKE'S BOOM."

erected on the left bank, and on Saturday last no fewer than twenty men were employed in guarding the privacy of Mr. Bourke. It is asserted, by the way, that on one occasion a sergeant of police was seen among the watchers—a statement which, if true, should have the immediate attention of the constabulary authorities. It is gratifying to know that the guards are not unnecessary. Simultaneously with his blockade of the Mole, Mr. Bourke has closed a bridle path which traverses a portion of his property between Hersham and Cobham, and which for time out of mind has been a public thoroughfare. The double act of injury has stirred the neighbourhood to a pitch of excitement which was probably not anticipated. Esher and Hersham are in revolt, Cobham—the home of Matthew Arnold—is lending them support, and there is a promise that in a very short time "Bourke's Booms" will have their only existence in local history. As an apology for his churlishness Mr. Bourke has stated that he has suffered damage from boating parties trespassing upon his grounds. Not every cockney carries a conscience with him on Bank Holiday, and in the multitude of those who boat upon the Mole there are bound to be a few blackguards. The fact of injury to his three-quarters of a mile of riverside property might warrant Mr. Bourke in fencing or otherwise protecting his banks, but it scarcely justifies him in cutting off the people of Esher and Hersham from the fifteen miles of waterway beyond—a waterway which they have enjoyed from time immemorial. He might with as much reason barricade the Portsmouth road if a tramp scratched the paint off his entrance-gates and broke the windows of the lodge. Even if Mr. Bourke had the law on his side his conduct in closing the river would be a piece of cruel selfishness; but there is very good reason to believe that the law is on the side of the public. The 16th chapter of Magna Charta provides that no river shall be "defended" except such as were "defended" in the reign of Henry I. A writ of Henry III. shows that the Mole was in his time Crown property; so that the Crown, and the Crown only, has any privileges over it. Moreover, Lord Chief Justice Hale has laid it down in his work on fresh rivers that every claim to the bed of a river, even when based upon a Crown grant, must be subject to the common law right of navigation by the public. It may be added that Mr. Richard Harris, Q.C., has expressed his opinion that the Hon. H. Bourke's case has not a leg to stand upon. In any case, matters cannot be allowed to remain as they are, and the residents intend to test the law. Mr. Henry Allnutt, the enthusiastic secretary of the National Footpaths Preservation Society, is giving them encouragement and advice. A public meeting has been held, subscriptions are being raised, and a committee is considering the plan of operations. Mr. Noton, a local solicitor, has humorously sugggested that the offender shall be indicted under the Malicious Injuries to Property Act, which provides a term of penal servitude of from three to seven years as the punishment for malicious injury to any navigable river or canal. It is probable, however, that when their preparations are complete the committee will organize a demonstration in force against the obstructions so as to court an action for trespass. The result of the case will be a matter of very great importance to the public, and the defenders deserve all the sympathy and support they can get. If they succeed in raising the blockade of Burwood it will be hardly possible to maintain the booms at East Molesey, and the Mole will be once more free from Box Hill to Hampton Court. If they fail, a hundred selfish landowners on the Mole and other waterways of pleasure will be encouraged to secure the seclusion of their grounds at the expense of the privileges of the public.

"JUDITH" AT THE BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

YESTERDAY morning Dr. Parry's oratorio "Judith," the chief work written expressly for the Festival, was produced. The argument is as follows:—At a great assemblage of the Israelites for the worship of Moloch the priests demand the children of Manasseh for sacrifice. The King, overborne by the frenzy of the crowd, acquiesces. The priests go to the King's palace and take the children from their mother, and bring them down into the Valley of Hinnom to sacrifice them. Judith endeavours to save the children, and is near being sacrificed herself by the furious worshippers, but is saved by the coming of the Assyrian host, who lay Jerusalem in ruins, and take Manasseh prisoner to Babylon. In captivity Manasseh repents, and is allowed to return to Jerusalem. But he is followed by Holofernes, who takes advantage of the ruined state of the city to demand submission to Nabucodnoser, his King, and payment of tribute. Judith exhorts the Jews to have confidence in God's help, and takes it upon herself in His name to save the city. While the Jews and Manasseh wait in anxious expectancy, she makes her way into the camp of the Assyrians, and even into the tent of Holofernes, who, overcome by wine and her beauty, is slain by her in the night. She escapes back to Jerusalem, and the Jews fall on the Assyrians while bewildered by the loss of their chieftain, and scatter them far and wide, and return to their beloved city exalting the name of the God of Israel.

In setting this story to music, Dr. Parry has exhausted all the resources of his science. Indeed, if we might offer any general criticism of the oratorio, we should say that it is distinguished more by the breadth of knowledge it displays than by originality of conception. Is not this what we might say of most English oratorios? With the exception of the great Purcell, than whom probably no more original dramatic genius ever lived, are not our composers too eager to display their knowledge, instead of giving free play to their imaginative faculties? Even Dr. Richter has called "Judith" an excellent work. Most of the works of our modern composers are excellent. We want them to be more than excellent. The orchestration of Dr. Parry's oratorio is exceedingly powerful and brilliant. The choruses are written as all oratorio choruses ought to be—in the contrapuntal style, and are monuments of skill. The solos are very good, and in their singing of them Miss Anna Williams and Mr. Lloyd especially added considerably to their former laurels.

MR. GLADSTONE ON MR. FORSTER.

THE September number of the *Nineteenth Century* contains an article by Mr. Gladstone on Mr. Forster and Ireland. Mr. Gladstone says Mr. Forster may have had, like many other genuine and original men, specialities or angularities of character which prevented his having the full power of assimilation with colleagues, so essential in political life; but he was, in a marked degree, himself from first to last. His aims were high and humane; his action in pursuit of them eminently strenuous; his perceptions were rapid, his temper kindly, his judgment not derivative but independent, his diligence indefatigable, his powers of work extraordinary. Nor let it be supposed that the purpose of his life was in the main disappointed. He has left conspicuous records of his active statesmanship in connection with the Education Act, the Ballot Act, and the Irish Land Act of 1881, to all of which he was, in principle or detail or both, at the least a main contributor; and he stands second only to Mr. Bright in his sleepless and energetic antagonism to slavery.

The discussion of Mr. Forster's Irish policy starts with the question how he and the Cabinet came to choose the form of coercion on which they eventually decided, and we are led to understand that it was founded by its authors on the belief that the existing disorder was the work of certain men known to the local agents of the Government, and that their prompt and summary incarceration would obviate the mischief by arresting the action of the cause. He says: As regards this particular form of coercion, the public are aware of no facts which would justify the supposition that it was forced by Forster on the body of his colleagues. It is evident, indeed, from the strain of his biography, that he thoroughly believed in the efficiency of the plan; that while it was in operation he laid hold of every momentary remission in the fearful rate of crime to rebuild his shattered expectations; and that he even to the last may have regarded it as a necessary complement (ii. 412) to other, and, as we now know, more rational methods. But he had no special responsibility, such as may accrue when, in given circumstances, a departmental Minister enforces his proposals by opening the prospect of his resignation if it be refused. On the other hand, the fine integrity of his nature prevented his resolute adoption of coercion from narrowing his views, or impairing his solicitude, on the subject of land law reform. I betray no secret except my own if I bear testimony to the early date and firm texture of his ideas on this great subject. I for one felt deeply the formidable nature of the proposals which the state of Ireland absolutely required; and in justice to Forster I record the fact that he preceded me in their adoption, and that he personally contributed to the formation of the strong resolutions by which we were enabled, and by which alone, we could have been enabled, to confront the Land League. The Act and the League came fairly into conflict; they grappled, as it were, with one another, for dear life; and, as it may now be permissible to say, the Act won the day. The effect on the two classes of its opponents was remarkable. The Nationalists became reconciled, though the law had abridged their demands.

Mr. Gladstone dissents from Mr. Reid's inclination to make Mr. Forster's views of his resignation a standard of history. He says:—When Forster had resigned he naturally supposed there was some cause outside himself for his resignation. Hence the supposition of a divided and wavering Cabinet, for which there is not a shadow of foundation. . . . It was Forster's own conviction that was probably undergoing a change which he had not yet defined to himself. He seems to have persuaded himself that the Government had some title to keep Mr. Parnell in gaol above and beyond that conveyed to them by the words (I quote from the statute the widest portion of the powers conferred) "reasonable suspicion of . . . inciting to any act of violence or intimidation, and tending to interfere with and disturb the maintenance of law and order." Except upon this supposition, it seems wholly impossible to explain his resignation. For the entire substance of his third condition (I do not mean a condition imposed on Mr. Parnell, but one stated to his colleagues) was absolutely fulfilled.

At Home and Abroad.

Herr von Bennigsen, the leader of the German National Liberal party, has been appointed Governor of the Province of Hanover.

King Malietoa, the deposed monarch of Samoa, arrived at Hamburg the other day as a State prisoner.

A telegram from Sophia states that a man named Christo Savoff, formerly a non-commissioned cavalry officer in the Bulgarian army, and one of the brigands who captured M. Binder and his companions, has been arrested.

Gustav Freytag, the novelist, has been ennobled—that is to say, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha has conferred upon him a decoration which, like the Prussian Black Eagle, carries with it a patent of hereditary nobility.

An inquiry has been ordered into the conduct of the French engineers of public works in Cairo, who have been charged with corruption on an extensive scale.

M. Tirard denies the statement that he intends to move for an inquiry into the "Boulangist conspiracy" and the manner in which the funds which support it are raised. The ex-Minister thinks that the only way to contest Boulangism is to reinstitute district voting.

The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Constantinople yesterday afternoon, and after being welcomed by Turkish Ministers on behalf of the Sultan, he landed, and was conveyed with his suite in Imperial carriages to Yildiz Kiosk, where the Sultan received him.

The President of the Wesleyan Conference, the Rev. Joseph Bush, was yesterday, at Bishop's Stortford, presented with a piece of silver plate by the Wesleyans of Herts and Essex, to commemorate his election to the presidential chair and on his leaving the Essex Mission for Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Felice Rossi and Antonia Valenti, two Italian musicians, were charged at Great Yarmouth yesterday with begging. When searched at the police station, £25 was found on them. They were discharged on promising to leave the town.

According to a telegram in the *Cologne Gazette* from St. Petersburg, the forthcoming Russian manœuvres near Elizabethgrad, which are to be executed by a total force of about 60,000 men, will be of the nature of a mobilization experiment.

The Secretary of the Treasury has instructed the Commissioner of Emigration at Philadelphia to expend 160 dols. in order to return to Ireland Anthony M'Avery, an Irish emigrant who arrived at New York in September, 1887, and who is now liable to become a public charge on account of failing sight.

The locomotive attached to a Lehigh Valley Railroad passenger train from Philadelphia to Wilkesbarre exploded yesterday on the top of the mountain near Fairview. The engineer and the fireman were killed, and it is reported that several passengers were injured,

The annual exhibition of the Derbyshire Agricultural and Horticultural Society was yesterday opened in the Cattle Market and Holmes Ground, Derby. The entries were numerous, the show of cattle being an average one, and in the horse classes there was an increase.

Judgment was yesterday given in a Board of Trade inquiry at Middlesborough, respecting the stranding of the steamer *Resolution*, of Whitby, on a reef off the coast of Morocco. The court held the master to blame, and suspended his certificate for three months.

The mayor of Birmingham proposes to hold a public reception in honour of Mr. Gladstone during his visit to the town in October next at the annual meeting of the National Liberal Federation. It is in the contemplation of the Gladstonian members of the town council to move that Mr. Gladstone be presented with the freedom of the borough.

At a special parade yesterday of the constables of the L division, at Kennington-lane, Constables Jekins and Wright, who were shot at by a burglar in Lambeth, were publicly informed by Major Gilbert, the chief constable of the district, that both men had been advanced from third to first-class officers, and a reward ordered of £10 each, and they had further been recommended to the Bow-street Reward Fund for their courageous conduct.

The steamer *Monarch* left Bournemouth at half-past ten yesterday morning for Ryde. When off Hurst Castle a sailing canoe was observed to capsize suddenly, and two gentlemen, the only occupants, were thrown into the sea. A stiff breeze was blowing, and a strong tide running, and both gentlemen being good swimmers, managed to reach another boat cruising in the vicinity, aboard which they were taken.

A sad case of drowning occurred yesterday at Crosshaven. A young married lady, the wife of Mr. James Murphy O'Connor, wine merchant, Cork, went bathing while her husband sat on the rocks. A receding wave suddenly carried her beyond her depth. She screamed for help, and her husband plunged in quickly to rescue her, but only succeeded in bringing her lifeless body ashore.

It is pointed out that in the course of its last legislative period, the Prussian Parliament voted no less than 457 million marks for the direct promotion of the national welfare—247 millions having been devoted to the construction, &c., of railways, 175 millions to canals, harbours, &c., and about 35 millions to the reparation of the ravages caused in various parts of the Monarchy by the inundations of 1886 and 1888.

Alfred Chapman and Sarah Gale, the couple who eloped from Dorchester on Monday, were brought back from Birmingham yesterday. An immense crowd congregated at the railway station, and loudly hooted and yelled. The prisoners did not appear much disconcerted, and the male prisoner, on placing the woman in a conveyance threw his arms round her and kissed her several times. On the way to the police-station the prisoners laughed heartily, and apparently enjoyed the sensation they created.

No less than eight summonses were taken out at Marlborough-street police-court against Hugo Becker, 84, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, charging him with selling wine, beer, spirits, and tobacco without having the necessary licence. Mr. Becker's defence was that his premises were a legally-constituted and were not a bogus club. Mr. Cooke dismissed all the summonses, directing the prosecution to pay £5 5s., the costs.

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SEVERE FIGHTING NEAR WADY HALFA.

MORE THAN 100 DERVISHES KILLED.

At sunset on Tuesday the cavalry vedettes near Wady Halfa reported seeing mounted dervishes moving along the eastern hills, and that they retreated immediately when they saw the Egyptian scouts. Colonel Wodehouse, fearing that the appearance of these dervishes presaged an attack, ordered the gunboat at Debarosa to keep steam up. At eleven o'clock at night a telephone message came from Fort Khor Moussa, which was garrisoned by 200 Egyptian soldiers, stating that it was being attacked by the dervishes in force. A patrol train was then instantly sent forward from Wady Halfa with fifty infantry and fifty cavalry to reconnoitre, and at the same time the gunboat, with Lieutenant MacMurdo in command, started for Khor Moussa. Before midnight the telephone wire connecting the besieged fort with Halfa was cut. The cavalry soon returned, and reported that the southern part of the fort was in the hands of the dervishes, but that the garrison, under the command of Bimbashi Abdur Ghan, were fighting stubbornly and holding their own in the remainder of the fort. Lieutenant Machell, with 100 Soudanese, thereupon left Wady Halfa in another train, and found the gunboat assisting the garrison to clear out the dervishes, having already repulsed the main body. Lieutenant Machell, with a detachment of his Soudanese, then made a rush upon the dervishes in the fort, and killed them all, about a hundred in number. Many also were killed outside. The Egyptian loss was 16 killed and 27 wounded, among the latter being two officers. Great praise is accorded by the military authorities to Lieutenant Machell and the Soudanese. The Egyptian troops behaved well. The dervishes numbered about 500.

THE GERMAN EMIN PASHA EXPEDITION.

An Alexandria telegram says:—Lieutenant Wissmann, the German explorer, has left here for Marseilles. The route to be taken by his expedition for the relief of Emin Pasha has not yet been decided upon.

ANOTHER ROYAL BETROTHAL.

It is reported at Berlin that Princess Clémentine, the youngest daughter of the King of the Belgians, is shortly to be betrothed to Victor Emmanuel, the Crown Prince of Italy. If this arrangement is carried into effect there is a fair prospect of the next King of Italy and the future Emperor of Austria being brothers-in-law. Prince Victor Emmanuel was born on November 11, 1869, and Princess Clémentine on July 30, 1872. The more orthodox of the Belgian Catholics are said to be indignant at the projected union, which would connect the Belgian Royal family with that of the usurper of the Pope's temporal power. The Pope, however, is said to be in favour of the marriage, and has sent Cardinal Schiaffino to Brussels to smooth away all clerical opposition.

THE BRIGANDS IN BULGARIA.—ANOTHER ARREST.

A Sophia telegram says:—A man named Christo Savoff, a former non-commissioned officer in the 1st Regiment of Cavalry in the Bulgarian army, who formed one of the band of brigands that captured M. Binder and his companions at Bellova, was arrested yesterday evening by a cavalry patrol in the neighbourhood of Sophia. It appears that Savoff had come to Sophia to see an old comrade of his of the same regiment. The police found on him when he came to be searched the sum of 194½ pounds Turkish, the residue of 200, his share of the ransom paid by M. Binder and his fellow captives. Savoff was confronted with M. Binder and M. Mikoglou, who at once recognized him as a member of the band. The judicial inquiry continues. In the course of his examination Savoff stated that Rassareff, the leader of the band, and some others of his followers were in the Bellova mountains, but intended to make their way into Servia, while the Albanian members of the gang had escaped into Macedonia. It is thought that Savoff came to Sophia for the purpose of finding some accomplices for a daring attempt in the town itself, especially as three of his companions are believed to be lying concealed here or in the immediate neighbourhood. Both police and military are prosecuting an active search.

A RAID BY SIX HUNDRED PIRATES.

The *Courier* of Indo-China gives an account of an act of piracy which took place recently in the suburbs of Hanoi. Six hundred pirates from Bay Say on the 4th of July, at one o'clock in the morning, broke into the huyen of Than Tri, two hours from Hanoi, and carried by storm a post occupied by the militia. The pirates had dressed themselves like the Tonquin riflemen, and at least 300 of them were armed with good rifles. Three of their leaders were mounted, and wore the uniforms of French officers. In less than half an hour the posthouse was burnt down. Thanks to the dark night, the rain, and perhaps also to the connivance of the neighbouring villagers, the whole attack was carried out without a word of warning. M. Halais, the resident at Hanoi proceeded at once to make an inquiry on the spot.

OFFICIAL BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION IN HUNGARY.

A curious correspondence came to light some months ago revealing how much official bribery and corruption were practised at Hungarian elections. Count Szechenyi, Minister of Commerce, was proved to have written to a prefect, saying that a certain ministerial candidate must be made to win by means fair or unfair. The Hungarian papers now publish a letter from a prefect who informed M. Tisza with a naïve cynicism that another ministerial candidate would require at least 7,000 fl. to secure his return, but that a certain landowner was willing to contribute this sum on condition of being ennobled. A subsequent letter announced that as the landowner had received his patent of nobility he had at once paid down 4,000 fl. These letters are to be laid before the Hungarian Parliament.

THE PROGRESS OF THE EIFFEL TOWER.

During the last two months (says a Paris correspondent) people have been looking at the Eiffel tower and wondering why it did not grow any higher. Rumours were afloat that M. Eiffel was at a loss how to construct the remainder of his gigantic structure. It had been carried rapidly to the second story, where the four pillars meet and combine into one straight tower. The difficulty seems to have been the conveyance of the material up to that height, but now it is stated everything is ready for continuing the work. The number of workmen occupied upon it has been greatly decreased, but this is accounted for by the narrowing of the centre of work in proportion as the tower rises. The platform of the second story, from which the fireworks were let off on the 14th of July, measures only one thousand square metres

THE REJECTION OF THE FISHERIES TREATY.

EXPECTED MEETING OF THE CANADIAN CABINET.

The sub-committee of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs is, says a New York telegram to the *Daily News*, engaged in preparing a Retaliation measure in accordance with the President's Message for early submission to Congress. The Republicans are still much puzzled as to their course. It is thought that they will denounce the President for inconsistency, but not block the proposed bill. A despatch from Ottawa announces the return to the capital of Sir John Macdonald. This is taken as an indication of the speedy reassembling of the Cabinet after the summer holiday. Many hold that the reassembling of the Cabinet has been hastened by Mr. Cleveland's Message, but that is not altogether the cause. Doubtless the Retaliation measure will be considered by the Cabinet at an early date, but the more immediate question for consideration is the union of Newfoundland with the Dominion, a conference having been arranged, and the delegates are shortly expected from Newfoundland. It is understood that the first business of the Government will be to appoint a sub-committee of the Privy Council to discuss with the Newfoundland representatives the whole question of union, and endeavour to arrive at a basis of agreement subsequently. If such basis be agreed upon, it will come before the respective Governments of the two countries.

FISHERY COMMISSION HONOURS.

The Queen has conferred a baronetcy upon Sir Charles Tupper, G.C.M.G.; the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George upon the Hon. Sir Lionel Sackville-West, K.C.M.G., her Majesty's Minister at Washington; and a Knight Commandership of that Order upon Mr. J. S. D. Thompson, Q.C., Minister of Justice, Canada; Mr. J. S. Winter, Attorney-General, Newfoundland; and Mr. J. H. G. Bergne, C.M.G., superintendent of the treaty department of the Foreign Office, in recognition of their services at the recent conference at Washington on the subject of the North American fisheries.

ACTIVITY OF THE PREACHERS OF PROHIBITION.

The National Prohibition Committee has opened its headquarters at 88, Fifth-avenue, New York. Mr. Samuel Dickie, of Albion, Michigan, chairman of the executive committee, says:—"We have most enthusiastic reports from all sides. Four years ago we polled 152,000 votes. This year we will have between three and five times as many. In New York we expect 50,000, perhaps 75,000. We will have seventy eloquent speakers in the field preaching prohibition from Maine to California. With regard to the high licence clause which the Republicans insert in their platform, we think it bad politics and bad statesmanship. The Republicans will completely estrange the liquor men and will not gain a single convert from the prohibitionists. General Fisk leaves on Friday for an extensive trip through the north and south-west. Our committee are most amply supplied with money, and we shall make a vigorous fight. We expect to distribute between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000 of campaign documents. While we do not expect to win, we do expect to show such strength this year as will make us formidable in the near future."

GRAVE CHARGES AGAINST FRENCH OFFICIALS.

The Cairo correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* telegraphs:—The Committee of Inquiry, with the Minister of Public Works at the head, has been appointed to investigate the working of the Tanzim, or administration of roads and bridges at Cairo. This is a purely French administration, with a budget of £68,000. Grave charges have been brought against the French engineers, who, it is alleged, have been guilty of defalcations for two years to the extent of £40,000. Riaz Pasha has also ordered an inquiry into the Soudan Bureau regarding the Gordon bonds, payment of which the Soudan claims. The Bureau is presided over by a Frenchman.

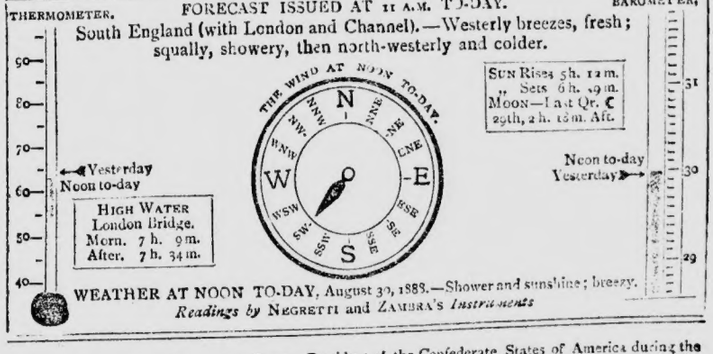
THE GREAT FIRE AT HAMBURG.

The utter hopelessness of every effort to cope with the fury of the flames in the recent great conflagration is, says a Hamburg correspondent, accounted for partly by the enormous quantity of spirits consumed in the fire. In the warehouses that have disappeared no fewer than 1,300 barrels of this commodity, which forms so important an element in the Hamburg export trade, were in store, and not a single barrel has escaped. Another item in the catalogue of losses is 79,000 bags of sugar. A very large quantity of palm oil has also been lost. Most of it is floating on the waters of the Elbe, and consequently still constitutes a source of danger to the port.

By a mistake in telegraphing the amount of damage done was yesterday estimated in pounds instead of marks.

PRESENTATION TO MR. LANE, M.P.

Mr. W. J. Lane, M.P., has been presented with an illuminated address and 880 sovereigns by his fellow-citizens and fellow-countrymen to mark their appreciation of his political services and their detestation of the cruel tortures to which he was subjected while imprisoned in Tullamore gaol. Mr. Lane, at the conclusion of the presentation, entertained his friends at luncheon. To the toast of "Ireland a Nation," Mr. Healy, M.P., responded. The toast of "Ireland a Nation" was, he said, one that no longer could be disposed of by a jeer or a jibe by those who formerly were inclined to treat it as such. In those people's minds the Irish people in their aspirations for nationhood had now advanced from the category of harmless fanatics to that of criminal lunatics.



THE HONOURABLE JEFFERSON DAVIS, President of the Confederate States of America during the late Civil War, writing to Messrs FRY'S agent, says:—"The samples of Cocoa which you kindly sent have been received safely, and have been tried by my family, who consider the different preparations of Cocoa unusually delicate and agreeable." Ask your Grocer for a sample of FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA and copy of Testimonials.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE OPENING OF SIBERIA.

THE FATE OF THE "PHŒNIX."

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ST. PETERSBURG, August 30.—The *Hérold* to-day states that the British steamer *Phœnix*, which, with another English steamer the *Labrador*, was to convey merchandise to Siberia through the Kara sea, foundered in the Yenisei last week. The journal considers it doubtful whether another steamer will be able to pass through the Kara Sea during the present year.

The above telegram, which is from Reuter to-day, is a sample of the kind of belated and inaccurate information which reaches this country as to occurrences in Russia. Judging from this telegram any one would imagine that Captain Wiggins's great enterprise is doomed to hopeless failure. As a matter of fact its prospects were never brighter than they are at present. The facts are as follows:—About a fortnight since news was received in this country by the Company of Phœnix Adventurers that as the *Phœnix* was making her way down the Yenisei to the sea, she ran aground about 300 miles north of Yeniseisk. It was therefore necessary to procure a steamer which would replace her for the river traffic. No time was lost. An admirable steamer, drawing nearly three feet and a half of water, was procured on the Clyde, and at once despatched to join the *Labrador* at Vardoe. So far from there being any doubt as to the ability of the steamer to pass through the Kara Sea during the present summer, that is in no way affected by the accident which has happened to the *Phœnix*. The *Phœnix* was a river boat, and was never intended to enter the Kara Sea at all. It was the *Labrador* which had to enter the Yenisei through the Kara Sea and tranship her goods into the *Phœnix*. All that has been changed by the stranding of the *Phœnix* is that the *Labrador* will bring with her as a consort the *Seagull*, which will proceed up the river with the cargo as soon as it can be transhipped. The accident will not retard the operations of Captain Wiggins in the least.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

THE EMPEROR WILLIAM'S VISIT TO ROME.

ROME, Aug. 30.—It is announced that the Emperor of Germany will arrive here on October 6. The municipal authorities are making preparations for a grand ball which will be given in his Majesty's honour in the three palaces on the Capitol, which will be connected for the occasion. The British, German, and Austrian squadrons will shortly visit the principal Italian ports.

THE OUTRAGE AT THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN PARIS.

PARIS, August 30.—It is stated that the report drawn up by the German Ambassador, regarding the attempt made at the Embassy the day before yesterday by a man named Garnier to kill one of the officials, declares that the would-be murderer must be regarded as insane. The incident is therefore believed to be without importance.

THE ARREST OF A GERMAN SUBJECT AT NICE.

NICE, August 30.—The search made at the residence of Herr von Hohenburg, the retired German officer who was arrested yesterday while in the act of sending by post a box containing a Lebel cartridge, has led to the discovery of certain papers which by order of the authorities will be translated. Herr von Hohenburg has been a resident of Nice for the past seven years. He had been arrested twice before on the charge of espionage; but on each occasion was released shortly afterwards.

MUTINY AT LORENZO MARQUES.

LORENZO MARQUES, August 30.—The white soldiers here have mutinied against their officers. Portuguese marines have been landed, and some fighting is expected before the revolt is quelled. The population is safe. A war vessel has been ordered by the British Consul.

VOLCANIC DISTURBANCES IN ICELAND.

The Iceland steamer *Princess Alexandra*, which has arrived at Granton, reports that after leaving Reykjavik on Friday afternoon last the steamer got into a thick sulphurous atmosphere. After emerging out of this atmosphere, which was very stifling, she got into very disturbed water, and the compasses became unsteady. Captain Brown thinks the disturbance was caused by an earthquake which extended its influence seaward for thirty miles.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT NEAR MANCHESTER.

An alarming accident occurred on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway, at ten o'clock last night, to an excursion train returning from Belle Vue Gardens, Manchester, to Oldham. Outside Ashbury station the engine missed the points and ran off the line, dashing into a light engine. Several passengers were injured, and two were removed to Manchester infirmary, where they are this morning reported to be progressing favourably.

MISMANAGEMENT AT THE CITY-ROAD WORKHOUSE.

Last night, at the meeting of the Holborn board of guardians, Mr. B. Garrod presiding, Mr. Ross referred to the decision of the Local Government Board in the recent inquiry into the alleged excessive consumption of stimulants in the City-road Workhouse. He said the charges were not only made against the master, but proved and admitted, but notwithstanding this the Local Government Board thought censure sufficient. It was a perfect farce, and he moved a resolution to the effect that a communication be sent to the Local Government Board saying that they had lost all confidence in the master. Mr. Goode, J.P., seconded, and after discussion the motion was unanimously adopted. Next came a report of the committee charging the master of the same establishment with passing as fit for food quantities of meat which the cook could not prepare or the patients eat. The guardians resolved to hold a full and searching inquiry, and to suspend the master (Mr. William Danielis) meanwhile.

CAPTURE OF BURGLARS IN CALEDONIAN ROAD.

At an early hour this morning three burglars were captured on the premises of Mr. Martin, corn chandler, of Copenhagen-street, Caledonian-road. The manager, who was sleeping on the premises, was aroused by hearing the noise of some one in the lower part of the house. Without disturbing the burglars he called in three constables, who upon searching the house found the men. An unsuccessful attempt was made by them to escape, but they were soon arrested and taken to the Caledonian police-station, where they will be charged to day. Upon searching the house the police discovered that the burglars had broken open a desk and taken out some stamps and money. They had, it appears, effected an entrance by cutting away some of the framework of the window. It is not yet known whether the prisoners are wanted for other burglaries that have been committed of late in different parts of the North of London.

THE WONDROUS WEATHER PLANT.

That remarkable specimen of the vegetable world, the "weather plant," continues, says a Vienna correspondent, to excite considerable interest here. Men of science who on its first discovery were unwilling to express an opinion on its prognosticating virtues, now agree after extensive experiments, that the shrub is in truth prophetic. Thirty-two thousand trials made during the last three years tend to prove its infallibility. The plant itself is a legume, commonly called the "Paternoster-pea," but known in botany as the Abrus Peregrinus. It is a native of Corsica and Tunis. Its leaf and twig strongly resemble those of the acacia. The more delicate leaves of its upper branches foretell the state of the weather forty-eight hours in advance, while its lower and hardier leaves indicate all atmospheric changes three days beforehand. The indications consist in a change in the position of the leaves and in the rise and fall of the twigs and branchlets.

THE CLANRICARDE EVICTIONS RESUMED.

The evictions on Lord Clanricarde's estates were commenced early yesterday morning. The Royal Irish Constabulary for the last week had been congregated around his lordship's castle at Portumna awaiting the evictions, and yesterday morning, under the command of Divisional Magistrate Byrne, assisted by Colonel Tynte and others, commenced operations. The authorities were supported by 180 men of the Scotch Fusiliers. The soldiers behaved at times in a way that elicited the cheers of the people who surrounded the evicted houses. Mr. Tever, Lord Clanricarde's agent, assisted by his bailiffs, was present, Mr. Tever carrying on his shoulder a Winchester repeating rifle. The first house visited was that of Michael Flynn. After an hour's work with the crowbar, Flynn was forced to surrender. The next house visited was that of James Callaghan, whose family used water freely upon the emergency men and policemen. After about two hours' hard work, the police effected an entrance.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY.

This morning the Duchess of Albany, previous to her departure for the Continent, arrived at Windsor by the South Western Railway, and proceeded in one of the Royal carriages to St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. After placing wreaths on her late husband's tomb, she returned to the railway station, and left for Esher.

FAILURE OF COLLIERY OWNERS.

At the London Bankruptcy Court to-day, the failure was announced of Messrs. Hodges and Craddock, colliery owners, of Ynisartoed Collieries, Neath, Glamorgan, late of Fenchurch-street. The debtors hold a lease of the collieries at £500 a year, and estimate the value of the same at £40,000. They state that the value of their interest in the collieries is sufficient to pay their debts, and that they are entitled to the plant and machinery on the property.

THE COMING SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

A meeting, called by invitation of the executive of the Metropolitan Radical Federation, was held last night at the Borough of Marylebone Radical Club, under the presidency of Mr. Fitzgerald, for the purpose of forming a central Democratic committee for organizing the forthcoming School Board election. In the course of the discussion which took place reference was made to the recent action of the London Liberal and Radical Union at the meeting of the National Liberal Club, and to the need for asserting the position of the Socialist and Secular party on that body in view of the coming contest. Mr. Bright, of Finsbury, expressed an opinion that they would have to fight the clerical party with all their might. In Finsbury they had resolved on the secular question not to interfere with the existing compromise of the London School board, as they would not be the first to break the compact, but it was evident that the clerical party were seeking to get all the power into their own hands, and they must do all they could to check it. Mr. Quelch maintained the need or a decided policy. He would not be satisfied till they had a platform of secular, free, and compulsory education, and at least one free meal per day. It was resolved to form the committee to act, if possible, with the Liberal and Radical Union, but if not to work independently; and each of the organizations represented at the meeting was invited to send delegates to a further conference on the subject.

A largely-attended meeting of the members of the London Secular Federation was held last evening at the Hall of Science, Old-street, City-road, under the presidency of Mr. G. W. Foote, "to consider the coming School Board election, and to adopt a plan of campaign." Mrs. Besant said while they as Secularists favoured free, secular, and compulsory education, they had no desire—indeed, they considered it would be unjust—to require that their anti-theological views should be taught in rate-supported schools.—Mr. Hubert Bland, who was announced as a probable candidate at the ensuing election, maintained that the existing School Board had lamentably failed in making adequate school accommodation. Mr. Bradlaugh, M.P., said that was the first time, so far as he knew, that the Freethinkers of the metropolis had taken advantage of the opportunities offered them by the Education Act of 1870, and this inaction was, he thought, disgraceful to them. There could be no more dangerous doctrine than that they could be liberal with money which did not belong to them. (Hear, hear, and laughter). It was wise to spend sixpence on education rather than a farthing on war, but money should not be wasted upon either. He did not hold with children being driven into the schools by penal enforcement. They should rather seek to create a public feeling in favour of the enforcement of the law. A resolution was adopted pledging the meeting to support the Secularist candidates, or candidates with secular views

RENEWAL OF THE FLOODS IN EAST LONDON.

There was a partial renewal of the floods in the East-end yesterday, and many of the inhabitants of the houses in the Isle of Dogs, Plaistow, and Stratford were again washed out. The West Ham fire brigade were called upon at an early hour to pump out the water in the basements and cellars of innumerable houses. Precautions have been taken at the Plaistow cutting and the Barking station of the London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway to prevent a renewal of the disaster of three weeks ago, but should further heavy rains fall nothing can save a suspension of the traffic except continuous pumping operations. Wanstead Flats is in parts almost impassable, and so also is the most beautiful portion of Wanstead Park. A repetition of the disaster at Romford and Barking has, so far, been avoided, the marsh bailiff having taken precautionary measures, but it is feared that another continuous rainfall of three or four hours would again produce floods.

The River Wye rose rapidly yesterday, and submerged the lines of the Mid-Wales Railway at New Bridge for some distance. The water was so deep on the line that a morning passenger train from Brecon to Llanidloes was stopped at New Bridge, and after some delay the passengers were conveyed to a relief train in boats.

"THE LIFE OF MR. BRADLAUGH."—ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.

Mr. Richard Harvey, solicitor, of the Outer Temple, Mr. Chas. Mackay, author, and Richard and Albert Major appeared to summonses at Bow-street yesterday, charging them with conspiracy to obtain from Wm. Stewart Ross £225, with intent to defraud. Mr. Jarvis appeared in support of the summonses; Mr. Crispe and Mr. Lewis Edmunds appeared for the defendants. Mr. Ross stated that he carried on business as Stewart and Co. He was an atheistic writer, and Mackay was a pupil of his at a Secularist school in Gloucestershire. Mr. Mackay was not the author of "The Life of Mr. Bradlaugh." Witness was not the author. He had some of the manuscript in court written by the author. Mackay had brought two actions against witness, one for upwards of £500. On the 6th of July Major called on witness and said he had seen Mackay and Jones, and had been commissioned to make an agreement for the delivery of four and a half pages of manuscript, which he said incriminated witness, and which had appeared in "The Life of Mr. Bradlaugh." Witness said he was "absolutely stunned," and that he had never written anything. He replied that he had seen it, and it was in his possession. Witness did not think that "human depravity had sunk so low that he would say he had it in his possession if he had not." Mr. Bridge: But surely you know whether you had written anything?—Witness explained that he had written several articles against Bradlaugh that he had not published and he thought they might have used them.—Mr. Bridge: Have you read the book?—Witness: Yes; and there seem to be echoes of something I had once done.—Examination continued: He modified his terms to £225; an agreement was written out, and on the faith of getting back the manuscript he paid the amount as already described. The manuscript was not returned, and witness intimated to Major that he had stopped the cheques.—Cross-examined: Mr. Mackay claimed to be the author of the book, and Mr. Harold Johnston also claimed the authorship. Witness lent Mackay books for the purpose of his "Life of Bradlaugh," and, so far at that went, he might be said to have supplied him with materials. It was not as his suggestion that the "Life of Bradlaugh" was written. He had had an antipathy to Mr. Bradlaugh. He had published an article entitled "Ananias in Excelsis."—Mr. Bridge: I always thought Ananias had gone lower down. (Laughter.) In further cross-examination witness admitted he saw the "Life of Mr. Bradlaugh" in proof. The case was adjourned.

KILLED ON THE VOYAGE.

The Belfast barque *Coolleen*, from Mauritius, which has arrived at Queenstown, reports that during the voyage a seaman named Simarton was washed overboard and drowned, and a seaman named Fairservice was blown from maintopsail yard and killed.

The Bishop of St. Albans, who has been detained at Argyll Lodge, Kensington, by weakness of the heart for some time past, is reported to-day to be still making steady progress towards recovery.

To-day's subscriptions in the *Freeman's Journal* for a national indemnity fund to defray the expenses of Mr. Parnell and his colleagues amount to £1,183.

The Glasgow police to-day report that Mr. John Angus, son of Mr. Edmund Angus, of Belsize Park, London, was killed at Stronachs Hotel, Glasgow, by a hoist accident last night.

Bishop Hughes has appointed the Rev. David Evans, vicar of Abergele, to the deanery of St. Asaph, void by the resignation of Dean James, formerly Head Master of Rossal School.

Paul Ferries' restaurant, Glasgow, was burned down to-day. The fireman rescued three Italians with the aid of ladders.

Lord Granville, accompanied by his son, Lord Leveson Gower, left Walmer Castle yesterday, and proceeded to Dover, where they embarked for Calais, *en route* to Paris.

Mr. Henry Jeffs, a well-known antiquary and Freemason, died at Gloucester, his native city, yesterday, from paralysis of the brain.

The steamer *Itchen*, of Southampton, is ashore near Hartland Point, and is likely to become a total wreck. The crew were saved, two by the rocket apparatus.

A telegram was received yesterday afternoon from Port Chalmers, New Zealand, announcing the safe arrival of the Rev. Alexander Hannay, D.D., secretary of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, and of Mr. Henry Lee, of Manchester, after a pleasant voyage. Both gentlemen left England about six weeks ago as a deputation from the Congregational Churches of this country to the sister Churches of Australia and New Zealand.

REPORTS OF CRICKET MATCHES.

THE AUSTRALIANS v. ALL ENGLAND.

The third All England match against the Australians commenced at Manchester to-day. During the present year the Australians have won one and England one. Grace and Abel went in first, but the latter was directly bowled by Turner without scoring. Ulyett then came in, but was also bowled without scoring—10 for two; Grace, not out, 6; W. W. Read, not out, 4.

SURREY v. ESSEX.

The return match between these counties was commenced at the Oval this morning. Essex won the toss and elected to bat, but before a start was made the rain drove them back to the Pavilion.

THIS DAY'S RACING.

YORK AUGUST MEETING.

CONSOLATION SCRAMBLE (Three-quarters of a mile).—Ossidine (F. Barrett), 1. Pedigree (G. Barrett), 2. Yule Tide (Watts), 3. Also ran: Castagnette (Weldon). Betting: 11 to 10 on Pedigree, 4 to 1 agst Ossidine, 5 to 1 agst Castagnette, 11 to 2 agst Yule Tide.

MAIDEN PLATE.—Workington 1, Five ran

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Half-past One.

BANK RATE THREE PER CENT.—STOCK MARKETS QUIET AND FEATURELESS.

The Bank of England directors at their meeting this morning decided to make no alteration in the official minimum, which therefore remains at 3 per cent. In the open market there is much less demand for accommodation now that the requirements in connection with the Stock Exchange settlement have been satisfied, and short loans are readily obtainable at 1½ to 1¾ per cent. It was not generally anticipated that any advance would be made in the Bank rate this week, but a few transactions in bills first thing this morning were arranged "subject." The general quotation for three months' bank paper is 2¾ per cent., but it is difficult to secure that figure. The absence of any withdrawal of gold from the Bank for South America yesterday has had a rather weakening effect.

With the conclusion of the Stock Exchange settlement another batch of operators have gone for their holidays, and another very quiet account is looked forward to. There is very little doing this morning except in American Railroads, where some selling has taken place, and prices are lower. Consols and other high-class investment stocks are still steady, and show no alteration of importance. Home Railways are quite neglected, and only three changes of ⅛ to ¼ are shown compared with last night. Foreign Government Bonds are firm, though there is little or nothing doing in the way of new business. American Railroads have given way, though only to a fractional extent, in response to the decline in New York yesterday, where values were adversely affected, especially Louisville and Nashville, and Norfolk and Western Preference, owing to reports of the spread of yellow fever in the Southern States. The last-named is particularly weak and is nearly one lower. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks opened firm, but have lost the improvement. The traffic is another unsatisfactory one, showing a decrease on the combined system of £8,562, of which £7,360 was on the main line. There is a slight increase on the Detroit section. Mexican Railway issues are dull. Copper Mining shares have again risen on the firmness of the price of the metal, but Diamond descriptions are weak. Brewery shares are again flat on the prospects of the hop crop.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

In Home Railways—*Risen*: North Western ⅛. *Lower*: Great Eastern ¼, and Brighton Deferred ⅛.

Among Foreign Stocks.—*Advanced*: French Four and a Half per Cents. ¼, Greek 1881 ¼, Egyptian Unified, Italian, Russian 1873, Spanish and Uruguay ⅛ each, Peruvian 1872 and Turkish Group 4 1-16.

American Railroads.—*Risen*: Pennsylvania shares ⅛. *Fallen*: Norfolk and Western Preference ⅞, Louisville and Nashville ⅝, Erie shares ⅝, the Second Mortgage ¼, Milwaukee and St. Paul ¼, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage, Northern Pacific Preference, Union Pacific, and Wabash Preference ⅜ each, Central Pacific, Denver Ordinary and Preference, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas, Philadelphia and Reading, and Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ¼, New York Central and Ontario shares ⅛.

As regards Canadian and Foreign Railways.—*Higher*: Grand Trunk First Preference and South Austrian shares ⅛. *Fallen*: Canadian Pacific and Mexican First Preference ⅛.

Mason and Barry are up ¼, Cape Copper 3-16, and Rio Tinto ⅛; but Guinness Ordinary stock is down about 3, Suez Canal ¼, and De Beers ⅛.

With reference to a telegram from Ecuador recently communicated to the public press by the acting secretary of the Ecuador Joint Stock Bank (Limited) to the effect that Senor Caamano had been appointed fiscal agent in London to negotiate an arrangement for the settlement of the External Debt, the Council of Foreign Bondholders communicate copies of telegrams exchanged between the Council and Captain Chambers, their representative in Ecuador, upon the above subject:—(I.) Telegram from Council to Captain Chambers: "Is Caamano appointed to settle debt here. Cable." (II.) Telegram from Captain Chambers to Council: "No; but principles settlement accepted, subject approval Congress 1890."

LIVERPOOL COTTON.—There is a fair business at firm prices. Sales, 10,000. Futures are very steady at an advance of one point for near positions and last night's rates for distant.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols	100⅞	⅜
New Consols 2¾	99¼	⅜
Reduced 3 p. c.	100¾	1¼
LocalLoan Stock	103¼	¾
New 2½ per. Cent.	95⅛	6
India 3½ per Cent.	105⅛	5
Do. 4½ p. c. Rst	69⅛	⅜
Egyptian Guar.	101¼	2¼
Met. Bd. Wks. 5½	113	⅛
Do. 3 p. c. Scrip	103	4
BirminghamCrp.Stk.	110	½
Liverpool	111	½
FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argentine 6 p. c.	103	5
Do. Hard Dols	69¼	70¼
Do. Treasury	93	9
Austrian Gold	90	2
Do. Silver	66	8
Brazilian 1875	102⅛	3½
B. Ayres 6 p. c.	102	4
Do. Cedulas I.	62¼	¼
Chilian 4½ p.c.1885	100	2
Costa Rica A.	90½	1½
Do. B.	89	90
Egypt. State Dom.	101¼	2¼
Do. Unified	84¼	5
Do. Preference.	102½	¼
Do. Daira Sanieh	79½	¼
French 3 p.c. Rnts	82¼	¼
Do. 4½p.c. Rnts	103¼	4½
Greek 5 p.c. 1881	74	½
Hung. Gold Rente	82⅞	3⅛
Italian	95⅛	⅜
Mexican Converted	39½	¾
Peruvian 5 p.c. 72	13⅜	⅛
Do. 6 p.c.	15	¼
Portuguese	6½	⅜
Russian 1873	97¼	⅜
Spanish 4 p. c.	73 1 16	3 16
Turkish 1854	99 10	
Group 1	24¼	¼
Group 2	14⅛	15⅛
Groups 3 and 4	24¼	⅛
4½ p. c. 1871	86¼	¼
5 p. c. Defence	96¼	7¼
5 p. c. Priority	82	4
Uruguay Unified	72⅛	3⅛
Virginia Funded	43	4
U.S. 4½ p.c.	107½	8½
BRITISH RAILWAYS		
Caledonian	106¼	7
Great Eastern	67½	½
Great Northern	116½	17½xd
Ditto A	101	2
Great Western	144	¼
Hull and Barnsley	29¼	30¼
Lancs and York	116	17 xd
Brighton(Ordinary)	140	2
Do. A	123¼	4¼
Chatham(Ordinary)	22¼	3
Do. Preference	100½	1
North Western	160⅝	7⅛xd
South Western	135	6
Manchester & Shef.	67	9
Do. A.	23¼	6¼
Met. Consolidated	74	½
Do. Land Stock	70½	1½
Do. District	34½	5
Midland	130⅜	⅜xd
North British	112⅞	13⅛xn
North Eastern	154⅞	5⅛xd
North Stafford	110	12 xd
South Eastern	132	4
Do. Deferred	103½	¼
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific	53½	¼
Can. Pacific Shares	35⅛	¾
Chic. M. L. and St. P.	74⅜	⅜
Denver & R. Grande	19⅛	⅛
Do. Pref.	51½	2
Illinois Shares	122	3
Lake Shore	99¼100	
Ohio & Mississippi	23⅛	¼
Louis. and Nash	62⅞	1⅛
Mex. Cen. Bonds	63¾	9¼
Do. Nat "A"	63	½
Miss. Kan. & Texas	13¼	¼
N. Y. Cen. Share	111½	12
New York Ontario	16⅜	⅜
Erie Shares	23½	½
Do. Sec. Mort.	101	½
Norfolk & West. Pre	54½	¼
N.Y.P.&O. 1st M.	33	½
North. Pacific Pref	60¼	¼
Pennsylvania Sh.	55⅜	6⅛
Phil. and Read. Sh	26⅜	⅞
Union Pacific Shares	61½	¼
Wabash Preferred	27½	¼
Do. Gen. Mort.	44½	5
Grand Trunk Sh.	13⅜	⅛
Do. First Pref.	59	¼
Do. Second Pre	41	½
Do. Third Pref.	23	¼
Do. Guaranteed	66¼	7¼
Mexican Ordinary	46⅛	⅛
Do First Pre	119½	⅞
Ob. do. 2nd Pref	79½	¼
Lombardo-Venetian	9¼	½
Varna 3 per cent	6⅞	7⅛
Nitrate Railway	24⅞	5⅛
BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	13½	14
City Bank	20	1
Consolidated Bank	7¼	8¼
Imperial Ottoman	10⅞	11
London and County	84½	5¼
Union of London	39	40
London and West.	66	7
London Joint Stock	39	40
Nat. Prov. of Eng	43	4
Stana. Bnk. S. Afric	43½	9½
MINES		
Indian Consolidated	¾	⅛
Mysore shares	3	¼
Ooregums	1⅛	¼
Cape Copper	4⅜	½
Namaqua	2¼	3
Mason and Barry	9⅛	10⅛
Rio Tinto	21⅛	⅛
Montana £1 shares	1⅛	¾
De Beers	25⅜	⅛
Kimberley Cent	30¼	¼
TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.		
Anglo-American	40½	1½
Do. Pref.	63	9
Direct Unit. States	9⅛	⅛
Eastern	12½	⅜
Ditto Extension	12⅞	13⅛
United Telephone	13⅛	⅛
Globe Teleg. Trust	6½	¼
TRAMWAYS ETC		
London Gen. Om	200	5 x
London Street	12	14
London Tramway	14	15
North Metropolitan	17¼	18¼
WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterworks	256	61
East London	197	202
Grand Junction	124	8
Kent	269	74
Lambeth	258	63
New River, New	347	52
S'thwrk. & Vauxhal	162	7
W. Middlesex	204	9
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT.		
Gaslight & Coke A	254	8 xd
Imp. Continental	206	9
South Metropolitan	308	13 xd
Brush Elec Lt (£4 pd)	3	⅛
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp	8½	¾
Guinness and Co.	302½	7½ xd
Hotchkiss	8⅞	9⅜
Bryant and May	12⅜	⅜
Spratt's Patent	9¼	⅛
P. and O. Steam	62	4
Royal Mail Steam	59	61
Nat. Discount Co.	11	½
Hudson's Bay	19⅛	⅛
Suez Canal	86	½
E. & W. Ind. Dock	26	8
London and St. Katharine	41	3

AN AMERICAN PARNELL DEFENCE FUND.

Mr. Fitzgerald, president of the Irish National League in America, has addressed a letter to the different States delegates referring to the Parnell Commission and the Scotch action, in which he says:—"Mr. Parnell must not be left to fight alone. The united Irish race must not permit their leader to fail in his efforts to secure a fair hearing of his cause for lack of funds to carry on what must be an expensive suit. It is our cause he is fighting. It is we who through him were assailed by this combination of perjurers and forgers. It is incumbent upon us to stand loyally by him, and to give him that financial support which circumstances may demand. A Parnell Defence Fund should be inaugurated in every State without delay. The need is imperative. The funds collected should be remitted promptly to the Rev. Dr. O'Reilly, Detroit, Michigan. It is a cause that appeals not only to Irishmen, but to every man who believes in the good American virtue of fair play. It is the cause of honesty against corruption backed by England's Treasury. Mr. Parnell's triumph will be the *avant-courier* of a still greater triumph, when this Cabinet of murder, forgery, and perjury will be driven from power to make way for honest men."

EDISON'S PHONOGRAPH AT THE PRESS CLUB.

Colonel Gouraud exhibited Edison's new phonograph to a large and representative gathering of pressmen and ladies at the Press Club, Ludgate-circus, yesterday evening. There were two phonographic instruments on view, and they were in active operation, repeating, much to the amusement of listeners, pianoforte pieces, violin and concert solos, recitations, Mrs. A. J. Shaw's whistling, the noises of Mr. Edison's laboratory, in which the voice of the inventor is heard, the clicking of the electric telegraph, the grating of the files, and the rumble of the machinery. In the course of the evening Colonel Gouraud explained the various uses to which the phonograph could be put, which included writing letters from the instrument's dictation, and type-setting from a phonograph's dictation. He also spoke and sung into the instrument. Both the song and the speech were immediately reproduced, loud enough for the whole assembly to distinctly hear. Before the proceedings closed Mr. Walker, on behalf of the Press Club, sent a phonogram to Mr. Edison in America, congratulating him on his invention and wishing him every success. This message, having been registered on the cylinder, was taken to an adjoining room and put into another instrument and set up by a compositor.

CAVENDISH COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

The following appointments have been made at this college:—Tutor, Mr W. H. Whitfeld, M.A.; Tutor and Dean, Rev. A. E. Herrman, B.A.; Superintendent of Medical Studies, Mr. J. Griffiths, M.B., M.C., Assistant to the Professor of Surgery.

THE RESTORATION OF PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL.

The restoration of Peterborough Cathedral seems (says a London correspondent) to be supported by a few wealthy people with great energy. Canon Argles has given £1,000 to the general fund, and is providing a bishop's throne and a pulpit in the choir at a cost of £1,200, and is spending £500 on the choir fittings. Miss Argles has contributed £300 for the flooring of the choir. The Bishop of Leicester has contributed £300, Lady Elizabeth Villiers £1,200, and the various canons are each paying for their own stalls. It will cost another £18,000, however, to put Peterborough Cathedral in good order, and even then money will be required to sustain the fabric that has been restored.

THE SEE OF CHESTER.

A correspondent writes:—The Duke of Westminster, who tried hard to obtain the see of Chester for Canon Fleming from Mr. Gladstone in 1884, is using his influence with Lord Salisbury to offer it to the vicar of St. Michael's, Chester-square, on the present vacancy, and he certainly would not refuse it as he did the deanery of Chester, which went a-begging. The Canon, who is in residence at York, is a *persona grata* at Court, but the Queen is anxious that the Bishop of Sydney should be translated. When the deanery of Chester was vacant in 1867, the Earl of Derby was much bothered by friends in the Cabinet and out of it, who urged the respective claims of Canon Gregory and Canon McNeile. "Let an outsider have it," he said, and he offered it to the late Dr. Howson. Lord Salisbury may do the same in this case.

ANOTHER VOLUME OF "ESSAYS."

A band of young clergymen of the Liberal High Church school are, says the London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, engaged on a volume of essays designed to reconcile the claims of reason with those of religious authority. Among the contributors are the Rev. C. Gore, principal of the Pusey Library at Oxford, the Warden of Keble, Canon Holland of St. Paul's, Professor Paget, and the Rev. Arthur Lyttelton, Master of Selwyn College.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CULTURE.

Following upon Mr. Gladstone's speech last week advocating the extension of fruit and vegetable culture in England, an important conference will take place at the town-hall, St. Alban's, on Tuesday next. Several members of Parliament have promised to attend, and the principal growers of the country will take part in the proceedings. It is expected that a letter on the subject from Mr. Gladstone will be read at the conference.

TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

The traffic receipts of the undermentioned companies for the week ended Aug. 26, compared with the corresponding week last year, are as follows:—

Railways.	Increase.	Decrease.
Brighton	£1,232	—
Caledonian	6,725	—
Eastern and Mid.	142	—
Great Eastern	1,119	—
Great Northern	—	£812
Great Western	2,460	—
Hull and Barnsley	449	—
Lanc. and Yorkshire	801	—
Manc. and Sheffield	—	482
Metropolitan	749	—
Metropol.tn. District	602	—
Midland	2,252	—
North British	4,284	—
North Eastern	5,423	—
North Stafford	48	—
North Western	6,699	—
South Eastern	—	941
South Western	273	—
Tilbury	99	—
Tramways.		
Belfast	33	—
Bordeaux Tr. & Om.	—	63

Tramways.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bristol	£39	—
Calais	5	—
Dublin	—	£224
Edinburgh	—	18
Germany	37	—
Glasgow Tr. & Om.	3,004	—
Gothenburg	—	4
Hull Street	39	—
Imperial	—	57
London	—	105
London Street	64	—
London Southern	43	—
North Metropolitan	31	—
Provincial	605	—
Rouen	—	4
Sheffield	—	28
Southampton	—	36
South London	—	57
Sunderland	54	—
Swansea, &c.	—	26
Wolverhampton	2D	—

WILL OF THE LATE MASTER OF DOWNING.

The value has been declared at £20,398 of the personal estate of the late Mr. William Lloyd Birkbeck, M.A., Q.C., Master of Downing College, and Downing Professor of the Laws of England, who died at Cambridge on the 25th May, aged eighty-one years. He bequeathed his law-books to Downing College, £300 to the Birkbeck Literary and Scientific Institution for its building fund, £300 to the Literary Association of the Friends of Poland, £300 and an annuity of £30 for life to his clerk, £100 to his housekeeper, £105 to his friend James Petty Babington, life annuities of £100 to Florence Adamson, £40 to Fanny Dickens, and £25 to Sarah Susannah Rouse, legacies of £100 each to his friends C. Spulezewski and H. Cortazzi, and to the executors of his will, his brother Geo. Hy. Birkbeck, Richard Borradaile Lloyd, and Courtney Stanhope Kenny, M.P., and numerous other pecuniary and specific legacies. The residue of his property the testator left in trust for the benefit of his said brother and his family.

FATHER AND SON—IN ONE GRAVE.

Major Thomas Hare and his son, Gordon Horace Hare, were interred yesterday in the same grave in Kingston-upon-Thames Cemetery. The whole neighbourhood, including Surbiton and the suburbs as far as Kingston, was in mourning out of respect for the dead, and in token of sympathy with the surviving relatives. On the previous night the coffin containing the body of the son was carried from the Cottage Hospital to the residence opposite, and father and son lay on two biers in the same room until the funeral yesterday. Both coffins were of polished elm with brass fittings. On each was a large brass plate—the one engraved, "Gordon Horace Hare, thirty-four years"; the other "Thomas Hare, seventy-one years."

A DOG COMMITS SUICIDE.

The following story reaches the *Telegraph* from Montrichard, and is declared, although improbable, to be "a true bill." A short time ago a fine sporting dog was found by some kind people wandering collarless, in search of its master. They gave the animal a home while they looked far and wide for its owner. The dog, however, was restless. It ran out at intervals during the first week, but on its return it was always well received. The next week, however, it absented itself for some days, and when it came back its host gave it a beating. It started off at once in the direction of the river, plunged into the water, and struck out until it was exhausted—deliberately drowning itself in the middle of the stream. This strange incident was witnessed by several spectators, who are unanimous in declaring that this was a decided case of *felo de se*. The poor animal is supposed to have been inconsolable at having lost its master, and the harshness with which it had been treated by its new friend settled the business.

PROPOSED WELSH NATIONAL PARTY.

At a general meeting of the executive of the South Wales Liberal Federation at Cardiff yesterday it was decided to strengthen and enlarge the functions of the Welsh National Council, so that it may become a reflection of truly Welsh national and Liberal feeling. It was also resolved to direct the attention of the Liberal members for Wales to the necessity of constituting themselves a Welsh party in the House, pledged in the first instance to the Welsh national programme. Such a party was recommended to appoint a whip from among themselves, who should be wholly in sympathy with the Welsh national movement.

"NO HOPE OF EVERLASTING LIFE."

A scandalous incident occurred yesterday at the grave of the man Thomas Jones, who murdered his wife and afterwards committed suicide at Portsmouth. Considerable sympathy was felt for the murderer, who had been pronounced by a coroner's jury as of unsound mind. The officiating clergyman, the Rev. G. Edwards, declined to allow the body to be taken into the mortuary chapel, and, on the ground that the crime of murder had put the man outside the pale of the Church, omitted certain portions of the burial service, explaining, in response to the protests of the undertaker, that he could not read the prayer holding out hope of everlasting life.

MR. IGNATIUS DONNELLY, the author of the Shakspeare Cryptogram, was yesterday nominated for Governor of Minnesota by the State conference of farmers and the Labour organization. A hundred delegates, mostly from St. Paul and Daluth, attended.

THE KNIGHTS OF LABOUR IN A BAD WAY.—Mr. Barry, member of the National Executive Board of the Knights of Labour, says that the order is dying; that dry rot is being produced by too much conservatism; no new members are being secured, and the old membership is decreasing. Mr. Barry says all the old salaried officers should vacate and give others a chance.

AWFUL TRAGEDY IN AMERICA.—The steamer *Arizona*, which arrived at Queenstown yesterday with American despatches, brought particulars of a terrible tragedy which occurred at Prairie Centre, Ottawa, Illinois, on the 19th inst., resulting in the death of eight young men. A ball was being held in a house at Prairie Centre when at midnight two young men fought about a partner. The men present took sides. Knives were freely used, and eight persons were stabbed to death.

THE GAME SEASON.—The continued wet and cold weather has had a discouraging effect upon game prospects in East Anglia. In Essex and Norfolk good coverts of partridges are scarce. A meeting of Essex gentlemen has adopted a resolution to the effect that it is desirable to postpone partridge shooting until September 15. Mr. C. Page Wood has given publicity to the resolution in the hope that the course proposed may meet with general approval and adoption.

ANOTHER BALLOON ACCIDENT.—In connection with a horticultural fête which was held at Willenhall, near Wolverhampton, yesterday afternoon, the principal attraction was a balloon ascent. The aëronaut was an assistant of Captain Morton, of Oldbury, and he was accompanied by a local surgeon named Tonks. Immediately after the start was made the balloon caught against a chimney stack, which was knocked down, the balloon collapsing at the same time. It remained suspended on the house-top until the occupants escaped by sliding down the rope. Mr. Tonks was seriously injured on the leg.

ROBBING A METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE.—A singular robbery was reported yesterday to the police at Worship-street, the victim being Mr. Saunders, one of the stipendiary magistrates attached to the court. Mr. Saunders shortly after four o'clock left the court on the way to Liverpool-street station, and when passing a turning called Eldon-street a lad, whom he described as sixteen or seventeen years of age, suddenly rushed against him and snatched at his watchguard, securing the watch, with which he ran away. Mr. Saunders, who is rather infirm, was unable to follow the thief. The watch, which he valued at £5, was a silver hunting-case lever.

THE UGLINESS OF LONDON.

A PLEA FOR BEAUTIFUL STREETS BY "OUIDA."

The place of honour in the new number of the *Woman's World* (Cassell) is given to an interesting article by "Ouida," entitled "The Streets of London."

THE PROVINCIAL LOOK OF LONDON.

"London," she says, "has a curiously provincial appearance. Notwithstanding its vast extent and its immense population it has in many ways the aspect of a third-rate town, since in no part whatever of it does its architecture correspond with the number and splendour of its equipages, the rank and fortune of many of its landlords and tenants, and the splendour of the arts gathered in its galleries. . . . The streets are dreary, although so peopled; the sellers of fruit or flowers sit huddled together in melancholy over their baskets, the costermonger bawls, the newsboy shrieks, the organ-grinders gloomily exhibit a sad-faced monkey or a still sadder little dog; a laugh is rarely heard; the crossing-sweeper at the roadside smells of whisky; a mangy cat steals timidly through the railings of those area barriers that give to every London house the aspect of a menagerie combined with a madhouse."

AWAY WITH YOUR BASEMENTS.

The mention of railings leads Ouida into a philippic against basements. "Why do they exist," she asks, "these dreadful subterranean places in which nothing but the soul of a blackbeetle can possibly delight?" She urges that kitchens should be placed at the top of the house; and then "if the basements were abolished you would at once get rid of the flight of steps to your hall-door, which is a snare in frosty weather, a misery in rainy weather, and an eyesore in all weathers. You would get rid of those odours of cooking and eating which so oppressively pervade even large London houses. . . . There is too much eating in all London houses; too many servants sleep in them; the air is not admitted freely enough; fear of burglars keeps the whole dwelling hermetically sealed and shuttered all night, and the atmosphere cannot be freshened even by all the incense burnt and perfumed waters blown about the reception rooms. Without fresh air, and fine and true lines of architecture in a house, no decoration avails anything; its ornament is only like gold and silver brocades on a hunchback's shoulders."

A LESSON FROM MUNICH.

After noticing a few minor points, "Ouida" goes on to deplore the absence of any fine prospects in London. With the possible exception of the views from Carlton-gardens and from the Serpentine across the bridge, "there is no other *coup d'œil* to be obtained in the town anywhere; nothing in the least like the Place de la Concorde in Paris, or the Piazza del Populo in Rome. Piccadilly, which promises fairly well opposite the Green Park, becomes unsightly, narrow, and common as it stretches on towards Regent-circus, whilst Regent-street itself is terribly vulgar and commonplace; the want of height in the houses, and the want of magnificence in the shops, are defects which strike the eye at a first glance most painfully. Oxford-street is the most painful and the most depressing thoroughfare that exists anywhere in the centre of any great city. There is no earthly reason that I know of why Oxford-street should not be as beautiful and noble a street as that thoroughly modern but none the less thoroughly beautiful street, the Maximillian-strasse of Munich. Imagine for a moment what it would mean to London if, instead of the meanness, poorness, and diminutiveness which now affront us there, we found Oxford-street a thoroughfare like the Maximillian-strasse, with birds singing in lofty trees, noble spaces shining with light, and stately buildings reposing the eyes with the mingled delights of shadow and of outline."

"TUNNELS LEADING TO LADDERS."

The fashionable parts of London do not escape "Ouida's" censure. On the contrary, of the Grosvenor-place palaces, she says:—"They are large, as size is viewed in London; they are exceedingly costly, and they are built opposite Royal gardens; but they are more depressing than any collection of cells on the solitary confinement system." She is very severe, too, on the interiors of most grand houses:—"Wherever you have only a narrow passage-way and a straight upright staircase, such as you are cursed with even in such houses as those of Prince's-gate, Eaton-place, and similar fashionable localities, you get meanness and poverty of appearance immediately. A tunnel leading to a ladder can never be dignified. You may call in your Trollopes and Maples or Gillows as much as you will; you can get nothing that is endurable out of a house with such a passage and such a staircase. You may hang them as you choose with rare stuffs, rare paintings, rare tapestries; you can obtain no effects out of them; and when you give a reception your jammed and suffocated guests anathematize you."

THE "CRUEL UGLINESS" OF LONDON STREETS.

"It is not wonderful," says Ouida further on in her paper, "that the great people of London doing so little for themselves in the way of decorative beauty, do nothing whatever for the populace. An ugly cucumber-frame like the Battersea Park Hall, gaudily coloured; a waggon drawn by poor suffering horses, and laden with shrieking children going to Epping Forest; open-air preachers ranting hideously of hell and the devil; gin-palaces, music-halls, and the flaring gas-jets on barrows full of rotting fruit, are all that London provides in the way of enjoyment or decoration for its multitudes. To drive through London anywhere is to feel one's eyes literally ache with the cruel ugliness and dulness of all things around, from the staring theatrical posters on the walls, to the helmet of the burly policeman who takes half an hour to beat out a dog's brains."

A PLEA FOR TREES AND BANDS.

Turning from the evil to its remedies, Ouida insists first on the necessity of more trees; and next on that of good open-air music. "Music might easily be heard in the open air much oftener than it is if the military bands of the Household Brigade, instead of being allowed to play for hire at pigeon shooting, and horticultural fêtes, and balls, private and public, and those various other innumerable engagements that take them here, there, and everywhere, were made to play for the public in the metropolis every day in different quarters. To cite once more the example of Munich, how delightful the frequent bursts of military music at all hours make that pleasant city, what a gaiety it lends to civic life, what a pleasure it gives to the very poorest!"

WANTED: A MEDICI MINISTER.

"And how easy and how wise it would be," Ouida continues, "to give the same gaiety, the same pleasure, to the jaded London crowds! When I saw the London people watching and waiting so good-humouredly for a small platoon of Life Guards and a few close carriages containing the Royal family to pass on their way to a railway station, I thought what a pity it was not to give that unselfish and good-natured crowd more out-of-door gratuitous enjoyment; not the sentimental trash of People's Palaces, which only mew them up under a roof, and make Pecksniff-Pasteurs out of them; but such enjoyment as one sees in the crowds of Paris, of Vienna, of Brussels, or five hundred smaller cities all over Europe.

"When one notes the patient throngs waiting by Palace-yard to see the Ministers and members drive by, one wonders why this faculty of admiration (not very wise or well-founded, but politically most useful) is so neglected by the eminent persons who rule the country. If they only knew how to *poser* as the Medici knew, what power they would obtain!"

THE EDUCATION OF THE STREETS.

And what good they would do! For, says Ouida, "the streets are the only education for the eyes of the populace which it is possible to give; where they are beautiful they are the best education after that of the open country itself. But what can the streets of London say to any poor lad whose instincts of genius are struggling towards light through the darkness of his ignorance? He can find no grain of thought, no ray of beauty, anywhere in all their dreary discords. Think a little what the water-ways of Venice were to Titian and Giorgione, what the pageantries and palaces of Rome were to Raffaelle, and then wonder not that there is no Titian, no Giorgione, no Raffaelle, for you who can allow your walls to be outraged by theatrical lithographs, and permit the platitudes and vulgarities of Oxford-street to represent your ideal of a civic central thoroughfare."

THE EXCLUSIVENESS OF BEAUTY IN LONDON.

"I am inclined to believe," says Ouida in conclusion, "that the monotony of ugliness in the London streets—buildings constructed without an idea, without a meaning, without a single grace, without any charm of light and shade, of proportion or of form—repeating its own nullity again and again and again, as an idiot repeats its mumbling nothings—affects the minds of those who live amongst it, and the sickly anæmia of the factory or the serving-girl becomes the dyspepsia and the boredom of the woman of fashion; and I believe that the hypochondria of English men and women is due much less to climate than it is to the absence of beauty about them in their daily lives, and to the unenjoying haste at which they live. The influences of beauty on the mind are never sufficiently remembered or esteemed. The same anxiety which would make one commit suicide in a back street off Eaton-square, seems but a mote in the air as we glide through the silver water to Venetian islets, or see the sunshine glisten through the gay green leaves of the Pré Catalan or the rich vernal aisles of the Bois du Cambre. The pall of smoke which is drawn like a stifling curtain around London, shuts out loveliness and light, and mirth their sister. Society has a substitute for these in what is called Pleasure, but the streets, and the people in the streets, have no compensation for their darkness. What is beautiful in London, the luxurious interiors, the charming women, the spectacle of great parties in great houses, the profusion of hothouse flowers covering walls and staircases, these the multitude can never see. When the beauty and wealth of a great society are displayed in its architecture, in its gardens, in its public pageantries and festivals, then the body of the public is a sharer in and gainer by them; what is left of beauty in London is wholly shut away behind the iron gates of courtyards and the hall doors of noble mansions."

A PLEA FOR MARRIAGE REFORM.

MISS E. R. CHAPMAN, the author of the "New Godiva," &c., writes an interesting article on "Marriage Rejection and Marriage Reform" in the September number of the *Westminster Review*. The article, although written before Mrs. Mona Caird's plea for free marriage appeared, is in some sense a reply to that plea for facile divorce, taking up as it does the doctrine of the absolute indissolubility of marriage. Miss Chapman sees that the choice lies not between marriage as it now is and free marriage, but marriage reformed and no marriage at all.

WHAT IS MARRIAGE REFORM?

Miss Chapman says:—"There exists a very large number of people who, while they are bent upon preserving the institution of marriage intact, are, if possible, still more bent upon modifying, beautifying, and elevating it. They quarrel with marriage as a legal contract, a social institution, and a religious ordinance," and she thinks this class "probably embrace most thoughtful persons who concern themselves about the matter at all. Viewed as a legal contract, then, the marriage reformers take grave exception to the institution as now existing, on the ground of its inequality—that is, of the preference shown for the interests of one contracting party over those of the other. The spirit of the laws affecting marriage, as well as the interpretation and administration of those laws, have been, and in many respects still are, notoriously hostile to the wife. The shadow of the *patria potestas* still lingers with such malignant effect among us." In matters of property, the custody of infants, and the law of divorce, the law is unjust, and should be amended. If the marriage contract is to be preserved it must be in many respects remodelled, cleansed of the remnants of barbarism, and purged of the old bad leaven of injustice to women.

Regarded in the light of a social institution, marriage continues to preserve too much of the primitive practice of wife-purchase and husband-purchase. The marrying for money or position is beginning to be viewed—consciously or unconsciously, by evolutionists and orthodox alike—not as an inevitable concomitant of civilization, but as a relic of savagery which every civilization worthy of the name must sooner or later repudiate. Another social abuse in connection with marriage, which, in the opinion of many, cries to Heaven for redress, is the difficulty—almost the impossibility—of becoming really acquainted before betrothal. The source of this evil is probably to be found in our wilful violation of Nature by separating those whom she set in families, almost from the cradle to the grave, enforcing artificial distinctions in the nursery, emphasizing them in the schoolroom, carrying on education, recreation, occupation apart, until girl and boy, with the best will in the world to be comrades and helpmeets all through life—not in married life only—end by looking each on the other not merely as a being of a different sex, but of an entirely different species. The strange entity is approached warily, like a fierce or coy animal, not like a fellow-human. The ideas, interests, habits of mind, are so diverse that to find a common meeting-ground is hopeless.

THE SUBJECTION OF WOMEN.

In its character of a religious ordinance, conventional marriage strikes the reformers as being altogether out of harmony with the best thought of the age. In proportion as their view of marriage has become nobler, a ceremony which, like the Church of England marriage service, thrusts into prominence that which, with all refined, self-respecting, reverent, and humane minds, constitutes the "sequel," bolstering up the old degrading Catholic fallacy

that whereas virginity is blessed, marriage is expedient merely—jars and estranges them. Still more emphatically do they repudiate the view taken in the Anglican "Form of Solemnization of Matrimony" of the mutual relations of husband and wife. That which the law has done and still does with the perhaps excusable cynicism of a secular power, they shudder to see the priest doing, with the sanction, as he believes, of the All-just and All-merciful—relegating, that is, one of the adult contracting parties, whose hands and lives he is joining, to a position of acknowledged inferiority, of perpetual nonage, and of humiliating subjection. If they deprecate the "religious" service which, contemplating the "causes for which matrimony was ordained," places last, as a mere after-thought, instead of first, with overwhelming honours, the primary cause, "the mutual society, help, and comfort that the one ought to have of the other;" if they recoil from the service which, on the ignorant assumption that marriage is "a remedy against sin," deliberately encourages legalized iniquity, such as cannot here be specified in the terms which are alone appropriate to it; not less sternly, less indignantly, do they reject a service which, in the name of God, Religion, Church, affixes the seal of sanctity to the despotic rule of the man, while it affixes the stigma of slavery for evermore on the brow of the woman.

No Tampering with Legal Marriage.

The position of the marriage reformers, briefly stated, is this. While yielding to no marriage-rejector of them all in impatience of effete laws, in repugnance for obsolescent customs, in hostility to irrelevant ecclesiastical pretensions, they are, at the same time, unalterably fixed in their resolve to allow no tampering with the principle of legal marriage itself—that is, with the solemn official ratification by the State of the life-choice of every man and woman whom, in the present, impulse or interest—in the future, as they trust, ever more and more Love only—have joined together.

It is now time to endeavour briefly to reply to the question, On which side is the truth, or, more accurately, the larger proportion of truth? Are those who repudiate marriage altogether, or those who desire to modify it, in the right? Will the deliberate verdict of the future be given in favour of marriage-rejection or of marriage-reform? Enough has probably been said to show that, in the opinion of the present writer, the marriage-reformers have incomparably the stronger case. We have seen that the rupture of both divisions with traditional conceptions of the institution has its roots in a noble discontent, and is, in the main, indicative, not of anarchy and disorder, but of progress towards a higher form of monogamic union. With both the motive for revolt has been detestation of the spirit which still exalts the "union by law" over the "union by affection," and both are alike characterized by a fine human perception of what it is which alone constitutes marriage. In the illustrations taken almost at random from recent literature of the modern tendency to marriage rejection, we see what are the inevitable consequences of the total surrender of the legal contract. "When we do not love any more, we can say good-bye," says Miss Schreiner's heroine. "Love should have the birthright of his wings," says Mr. Austin's hero. Why should two persons be bound together for life? asks Mr. Karl Pearson; and why, asked an anonymous writer, evident of weight not long since in the columns of a newspaper, should not temporary connections be formed, *sans peur et sans reproche*, by mutual consent of adult persons who prefer them to the restrictions of marriage? Instances might be multiplied indefinitely, but the foregoing are sufficient to show that, however unimpeachable the central principle of the marriage-rejectors may be—the principle, namely, that it is love which is the essence of marriage—the corollaries they draw from it are perilously unsound, whether regarded from the point of view of individual morality, of the furtherance of the commonweal, or of the progress of the race towards the true sexual relation.

The Example of George Eliot.

If we turn to those courageous pioneers—so they have deemed themselves—who have dared to shape their lives in accordance with this modern tendency to disparage the legal bond, and have, as it were on principle, defied opinion and eschewed marriage—what do we find? We find, in one word—failure. We find long periods of inward questioning and conflict; grave crises of remorse and resolves of lifelong expiation; we find suffering which is not quite the hallowed suffering of the martyr to truth; finally, we find confession of error, made sometimes in a very practical way. A typical instance will occur at once in the domestic history of one whose attitude towards the marriage-tie has done more to unsettle the morality (in the technical sense) of our time than it is easy to state without the appearance of exaggeration. George Eliot, it is evident to those who read between the lines of the "Life," made a solemn resolve that the teachings of her books should more than countervail the stumbling-block afforded by the spectacle of her irregular union, and should show, indirectly, that although her principles of action might be beyond the grasp of her contemporaries, at least they were not incompatible with an exalted sense of right, and a well-nigh fanatic devotion to duty. Unfortunately, the pathetic enterprise has failed of its effect. It is obviously the behaviour of George Eliot herself rather than the behaviour of her creations—of Dinah or Romola or Dorothea or Fedalma—which is moulding the ethical views of at least the younger section of her disciples. Time and experience alone can counteract the fatal impulse imparted by her to the anti-marriage doctrines of the day.

A Protest against Divorce.

A word in conclusion upon the subject of divorce. Divorce is, in principle, incompatible with the true monogamic idea, and will be viewed with less favour as the higher sentiments develop, and mankind advances towards the human marriage ideal. Already there are signs of reaction against the divorce mania which, in some countries, threatens the actual existence of the family, and makes marriage a byword. The modern spirit of revolt under discomfort, of impatience of suffering—even when notoriously self-caused—has hitherto blinded us to the clear duty of enduring private misfortune in the interest of the community, as well as to the madness of resorting to legal remedies for ills which only the gradual education of the race to nobler conceptions of its sex-relations can legitimately remove. While this education is proceeding, it is obvious that individuals will suffer, and suffer grievously. But that is the ineludible law of progress. And the sum of misery will probably be less where men and women are accustomed to regard marriage as indissoluble than where its dissolubility at will fosters the more frivolous—too often the more criminal—forms of passion. It is scarcely conceivable that in a future which we are led to believe will differ happily from the present in the rarity of its loveless unions, the few will not learn altruism enough to acquiesce in their personal privations rather than risk the stability of what—in a profounder sense than the world has known as yet—they will regard as the sacrament of marriage. Is it not Tolstoi who, in his restatement of the "second commandment" of Jesus, has uttered the watchword of the future? "Let every man have one wife and every woman one husband. No libertinage and no divorce."

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NOTES ON POPULAR PASTIMES.

The cricket season, so far as first-class matches are concerned, is now over, though the Australians have still some important fixtures, notably the match against England at Manchester to-day, and against Surrey at the Oval on September 20. But the recent form of the Colonials deprives their future performances of much of their interest. They have suffered no fewer than five successive defeats, one in particular being at the hands of a decidedly weak scratch team at the Crystal Palace, and, while Turner and Ferris are still bowling nearly as well as ever, the batting seems to have broken down in a most unaccountable fashion.

* * * * *

Surrey, of course, is champion county, with twelve victories against a single defeat by Lancashire; Kent comes second, and Yorkshire third, the most noteworthy features in the results being the forward position of Kent, and the poor show made by the Notts eleven, who were once looked upon as invincible. I should like, by the way, to see a table setting out the actual qualifications of the members of county elevens, for I fancy that comparatively few of the prominent players were actually born and bred in the counties that they represent, the majority playing under the "residential" qualification.

* * * * *

In the Lancashire eleven, for instance, there are only two or three real Lancashire men; and the same thing may be said of Middlesex and Kent. I am inclined to think that in cricket, as in politics, there is rather too much "carpet-bagging."

* * * * *

It says a good deal for the orderly behaviour of the vast crowds that watch important cricket matches, that only once during the season has there been any unpleasantness owing to the attitude of the spectators on a county ground. The good people of Derby were the offenders, for they howled and hooted at certain decisions of the umpires in the Derbyshire v. Lancashire match; and Hornby, who is blessed with a somewhat quick temper, withdrew his men and threatened to leave the ground. However, "Monkey's" wrath was eventually appeased, and the game proceeded. This is not the first time that Hornby has asserted himself in the presence of a hostile mob. He was a member of the first English team that ever visited Australia, and more than once found it necessary to admonish the local "larrikins" in a practical fashion.

* * * * *

It was once my lot to witness at Lord's an extremely comic scene arising out of demonstrations from the crowd. Kent v. M. C. C. was the match, and Lord Clifton, who is, or at all events was, an extremely peppery individual, happened to be playing for the county. As every cricketer knows, a Lord's crowd is an exceptionally well-behaved one; but Lord Clifton was fielding close to the boundary, and after he had allowed the ball to slip through his legs two or three times the spectators began to smile audibly. Instead of ignoring the smiles, his lordship proceeded to remonstrate in forcible language, whereat, of course, the crowd laughed the louder. Hugely disgusted, he appealed to the captain of the side, Lord Harris, and failing to get much satisfaction from him, marched off the ground in a huff, followed by derisive jeers. Lord Clifton vowed that he would never play for Kent again, and I think he kept his word. The loss to the hop county was not, however, a very serious one.

* * * * *

Last week's racing was not of special interest, but the meeting on the Knavesmire—what a singularly apropriate name!—at York is of more importance and there may be good sport at Scarborough. But until the Doncaster week things in the racing world will not be very lively. Two new racecourses have been "inaugurated," as the sporting papers say, within the last few days, at Hull, and at Leopardstown, near Dublin. Sport at both seems to have been of an indifferent character.

* * * * *

I question if it has ever fallen to the lot of any horse before to win two races on one day and to be disqualified for both. The bad luck of Lord Zetland's Grey Friars at Stockton is, therefore, very remarkable. He won the Stockton Cup by a neck from Eastern Beauty, but was disqualified for boring, and later in the afternoon came in first for the Norton Plate, but was again disqualified, this time because he carried 6 lb. overweight without the fact having been declared by his owner.

* * * * *

"Set a beggar on horseback and he will ride to the devil" is an ancient proverb which might be varied to the effect that if you set a policeman on horseback he is pretty sure to become a nuisance. A year ago a mounted policeman at Ascot ran into Phil while running in the Prince of Wales's Stakes; and at Hull on Saturday a brother constable managed to get in the way of the runners in the Yarborough Handicap, with the result that he knocked down Jessie and seriously injured her jockey, John Osborne. The mare subsequently died, and Osborne sustained a dislocated collar-bone. I really cannot see the use of mounted constables on a racecourse at all, but unless they can manage their horses properly they are not only superfluous, but extremely dangerous.

OUTSIDER.

A FAMOUS SWISS GUIDE.

The *Alpine Journal* for August (Longmans) contains an "in memoriam" notice of Emil Boss, one of the four hosts of "The Bear" at Grindelwald. From this notice, written by Mr. D. W. Freshfield, we take the following:—

"He was better known, and will be long remembered, as one of the most skilful and adventurous not only of Alpine climbers but of mountain explorers. Tall and powerful in frame, with a fresh open countenance, an expression full of life and energy, and at ordinary times a gentle, kind manner, he stood out—the handsomest of a good-looking family of thirteen—a remarkable personality

among the sturdy, weather-beaten, yellow-faced figures of the Bernese highlanders who gather round his father's door.

"As a climber, Emil Boss had great strength, agility, self-confidence, almost unlimited powers of endurance of cold and hunger, as well as the higher capacities of the mountaineer, the instinct of path-finding, and the judgment which varies a route according to the temporary conditions of rocks and ice. In the Alps in chamois-hunting, in winter climbing, in any form of adventure which struck his fancy as out of the commonplace, he had often proved his powers. He was never so happy as on the snows, and, keen sportsman as he was, would often, when out with his brothers, insist on going up beyond the haunts of the game, simply for the pleasure of going up. He had the true mountain passion, and the rarer air seemed to steady the too excitable nerves on which the smoke and crowd of cities acted (as he once said to me) as a poison. In New Zealand, in 1882, in the first ascent of Mount Cook with the Rev. W. S. Green, in the Himalayas, in 1883, with Mr. W. W. Graham, Boss showed in camp and on the mountains (as both travellers have borne emphatic testimony) all the qualities of a first-rate mountaineer, a hardened explorer, and a cheerful and resourceful companion.

"This faculty of cheerfully accepting and confronting the ordinary hardships of travel in a strange and wild country is rare among Alpine guides. To the uneducated the unknown is always terrible. The familiar perils of the snow-world guides are ready enough to face, but the prospect of encountering strange people, lands, and seas fills them with apprehension. Even when persuaded to face an exploring journey, Swiss peasants do not as a rule take kindly to the task. They miss the cheerful guides' room after their day's walk, the scarcity of stimulants depresses them, they are bewildered by the requirements of tent life, and before the snow-line is reached their energy is more than half spent. Many good guides have—in no way to their blame—declined to go beyond the Alps. Others, when brought face to face with their work, have found reasons, which seemed to them sufficient, for turning back. Emil Boss, not being himself a guide, went out with Ulrich Kaufmann to join Mr. Graham in India because no leading guide at Grindelwald would go so far alone.

"In Emil Boss the man himself was more interesting than his deeds, extraordinary of their kind as these often were. It was impossible to be long in his company without feeling that in him a nervous, imaginative nature, capable of rising to great emergencies, was chafing against the bonds of circumstance. His quick eyes and gestures, his vivid and forcible talk, were constantly vehicles for the expression of an inward unrest. Those who met him for the first time were apt to feel like the Wedding Guest in the poem. They could hardly believe that their new acquaintance was a native of Grindelwald and one of a family of Swiss innkeepers. He seemed rather an adventurer strayed out of the Elizabethan age, one of those eager spirits who sailed the Spanish Main under Drake and Raleigh. Emil would have been happiest in some Great Adventure—such as there are in this time—of African discovery or Polar exploration. Fate placed him in youth in a position in life in which the office of steward on a French ocean-going steamer was the readiest gate to distant travel. As soon as the winter snows covered his native valley in their white monotony he would disappear, like the birds of passage, to some far off and uncertain part of the globe. Previous to his two mountaineering journeys he had been in Australia, South America, North Africa, India. In several cases he left his ship and penetrated far into the interior; how far it is impossible now to say. But in spring he generally returned to his home with strange stories of many lands. In the course of these wanderings he made himself an excellent linguist. And in many other directions he had, from the time when, as a boy, the village schoolmaster found he had no more to teach him, natural capacities beyond his fellows. He possessed, besides, an amiable and generous character, which helped to make him the favourite son and brother in a large and attached family, and now adds keenness to the sense of their loss.

"Of late years the increasing responsibilities attendant on the success of 'The Bear' kept Emil Boss much at home. After his journey in India—there seems no certain reason for saying in consequence of it—symptoms of abnormal brain excitement, coupled with intervals of melancholia, showed themselves from time to time, and caused much concern to his friends. Last winter, however, he seemed to be more himself, and he took a leading part in much of the winter climbing, of which Grindelwald was the centre. At the beginning of the summer he went to Meiringen as the manager of the 'Wilder Mann.' There he felt ill and depressed, and in the last days of June returned to his old home on a visit; returned, as it proved, to die. In his death we lament the loss of an original and fascinating character, as well as the premature cutting off of a mountaineer who, with ampler and kindlier chances, might have carried man's highest on the mountain even higher than he did."

ROUSSEAU'S INN AT VEVEY.

Jean Jacques Rousseau in his famous "Confessions" has made the following entry concerning one of the old inns in Vevey: "I went to Vevey and lodged in the 'Key.' I have taken a special liking to this town, and in all my journeys have kept loyal to it." The ancient inn is now the home of M. Bollinger, and is no longer to be found in the list of hotels recommended by Baedeker, Berlepsch, Tschudi, or other guide-book compilers to their readers. The present owner has just had a tablet inserted on the southern façade of the venerable "Schlüssch" containing the above excerpt from the "Confessions," to which he has added words, "Here lodged J. J. Rousseau in the year 1732."

"A REGULAR BRICK."

What is the derivation of the word "brick" as applied to a person? The Rev. George Huntington, writing on Dean Hook in *Temple Bar*, supplies the following note on the subject:—

Mr. Charles Mackay, in the May *Blackwood*, on "English Slang and French Argot," says that "Brick," the highest encomium paid to a good fellow, is from *brigh*, spirit, energy, courage, and *brigheil*, magnanimous.

In Murray's "New Dictionary," "Brick," as applied to a person, signifies a genuine character, one made of good stuff; the image is suggested by the usefulness and hardness of the brick. But Archdeacon Anson, Dr. Hook's son-in-law, reminds me that Aristotle speaks of the τετράγωνος ἄνευ ψόγου, the four-angled figure—that is, cube, without blame or fault, *Angicè*, a regular brick ("Ethics," i., 10-11).

My friend, Mr. N. A. Roch, tells me that Dr. Arnold gave the sixth form as an exercise to write a description of Oxford in the style of Herodotus. One of the boys tried to decribe a cap and gown. Dr. Arnold suggested for the cap τετράγωνος, a word no doubt very familiar to him whose thoughts were always full of Thucydides and Aristotle.

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